
HEALTH DESK A PARTNERSHIP OF THE KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION AND THE NEWSHOUR WITH JIM LEHRER



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THE NEWSHOUR WITH JIM LEHRER/KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION/HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

National Survey on Prescription Drugs

September 2000

Methodology:

The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer/Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health National Survey on Prescription Drugs is a product of an ongoing partnership between *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer* and the Kaiser Family Foundation to improve coverage of health issues. The Foundation provides financial support for *The NewsHour* Health Desk, conducts surveys with *The NewsHour* and provides background research on certain health-related issues covered by *The NewsHour*. The Kaiser/Harvard survey research team, led by Dr. Mollyann Brodie, Vice President of the Kaiser Family Foundation, and Professor Robert Blendon of the Harvard School of Public Health worked with *The NewsHour* to develop the survey questionnaire and to analyze the results with *The NewsHour* maintaining sole editorial control over its broadcasts on the survey.

The results of this project are based on a telephone survey conducted between July 26 and September 5, 2000, among a randomly selected nationally representative sample of 1,701 adults 18 years or older (1182 adults ages 18-64 and 502 adults ages 65 and older). Fieldwork was conducted by ICR/International Communications Research. The margin of sampling error is +/-3 percentage points. For results based on subsets of respondents the margin of error is higher. Note that in addition to sampling error there are other possible sources of measurement error. Values less than 0.5 percent are indicated by an asterisk (*).

The Kaiser Family Foundation, based in Menlo Park, California, is a nonprofit, independent national health care philanthropy and is not associated with Kaiser Permanente or Kaiser Industries.

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- 1a. Do you think things in this country are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

	Right direction	Wrong track	Don't know
National Total	40	52	8
Under 65	41	51	8
65+	35	56	9

1. **(Asked of half of total respondents)** I am going to read you a list of companies and groups. For each one please tell me if you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of each. How about [READ ITEM], do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion? (GET ANSWER, THEN ASK: IS THAT VERY OR SOMEWHAT FAVORABLE/UNFAVORABLE?)

Total Respondents	Favorable			Unfavorable			Don't know
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	
a. Hospitals	71	27	44	25	13	12	4
b. HMOs, or Health Maintenance Organizations, and other managed care plans	35	9	26	57	23	34	8
c. Health insurance companies	42	13	29	52	24	28	6
d. Banks	71	26	45	26	16	10	3
e. Oil companies	32	8	24	57	26	31	11
f. Pharmaceutical or drug companies	48	16	32	44	20	24	8
g. Airlines	56	14	42	28	16	12	16
h. Doctors	81	36	45	17	10	6	3
i. Tobacco companies	23	7	16	71	18	53	6

Under 65	Favorable			Unfavorable			Don't know
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	
a. Hospitals	71	25	46	26	13	13	3
b. HMOs, or Health Maintenance Organizations, and other managed care plans	36	8	28	57	24	33	6
c. Health insurance companies	39	10	29	55	26	30	5
d. Banks	69	23	46	29	18	11	2
e. Oil companies	31	8	23	59	27	32	10
f. Pharmaceutical or drug companies	50	15	34	43	20	23	8
g. Airlines	58	14	44	27	16	11	15
h. Doctors	81	34	47	17	10	6	2
i. Tobacco companies	24	7	17	71	18	52	5

65+	Favorable			Unfavorable			Don't know
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	
a. Hospitals	72	37	35	21	11	10	8
b. HMOs, or Health Maintenance Organizations, and other managed care plans	30	15	16	55	17	38	15
c. Health insurance companies	57	24	33	32	15	17	11
d. Banks	82	42	40	12	7	5	6
e. Oil companies	33	8	26	48	20	29	18
f. Pharmaceutical or drug companies	39	17	22	52	19	33	9
g. Airlines	46	14	32	33	20	13	21
h. Doctors	80	47	33	16	10	7	3
i. Tobacco companies	16	6	10	74	19	55	11

2. **(Asked of half of total respondents)** I am going to read you a list of industries and ask you about the profits each of them makes. In general, do you think (READ ITEM) make too much profit, not enough profit, or about the right amount of profit? How about [READ ITEM], do you think they make too much profit, not enough profit, or about the right amount of profit?

Total Respondents	Too much profit	Not enough profit	About the right amount of profit	Don't know
a. Hospitals	46	18	30	6
b. HMOs, or Health Maintenance Organizations, and other managed care plans	56	7	25	12
c. Health insurance companies	68	4	20	7
d. Banks	50	3	38	9
e. Oil companies	75	3	16	6
f. Pharmaceutical or drug companies	73	5	19	3
g. Airlines	33	9	46	11
h. Tobacco companies	76	4	15	5

Under 65	Too much profit	Not enough profit	About the right amount of profit	Don't know
a. Hospitals	45	19	30	6
b. HMOs, or Health Maintenance Organizations, and other managed care plans	57	7	25	10
c. Health insurance companies	69	4	19	7
d. Banks	51	3	38	8
e. Oil companies	75	3	17	5
f. Pharmaceutical or drug companies	70	6	21	3
g. Airlines	33	10	47	10
h. Tobacco companies	78	4	16	3

65+	Too much profit	Not enough profit	About the right amount of profit	Don't know
a. Hospitals	55	10	27	9
b. HMOs, or Health Maintenance Organizations, and other managed care plans	49	6	22	23
c. Health insurance companies	62	2	26	10
d. Banks	48	1	38	13
e. Oil companies	77	2	11	10
f. Pharmaceutical or drug companies	85	1	9	5
g. Airlines	33	5	43	19
h. Tobacco companies	67	6	12	15

On another subject...

We're going to be asking you some questions about prescription drugs. As you know, prescription drugs are medicines that can ONLY be bought if you have a prescription from a doctor. Prescription drugs do NOT include vitamins, herbal medicines like St. Johns' Wort and ginseng, or medicines you can buy without a prescription, like aspirin.

We're also going to be asking you a few questions about Medicare. As you may know, Medicare is a federal program that provides health insurance primarily to people aged 65 and older.

6. Do you think the traditional Medicare program pays for prescription drugs for those 65 and older, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	35	55	10
Under 65	38	52	11
65+	24	69	8

5. Do you think private health insurance plans for most working people under age 65 and their families generally pay for prescription drugs, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	57	35	8
Under 65	59	36	5
65+	46	31	23

3. In general, do you think people in Canada, Mexico, and Western Europe pay higher or lower prices than people in this country pay for the same prescription drug, or do you think they pay about the same amount?

	Higher	Lower	About the same	Don't know
Total Respondents	15	63	10	12
Under 65	17	62	11	11
65+	6	68	7	19

4. In the past five years, do you think the price of prescription drugs has risen faster than most other things, about the same, or not as fast?

	Faster	About the same	Not as fast	Don't know
Total Respondents	62	27	5	6
Under 65	58	30	5	6
65+	80	14	2	4

7. As you may know, Medicare does not currently pay for prescription drugs. Would you favor or oppose a proposal to guarantee prescription drug coverage to everyone on Medicare?

	Favor	Oppose	Don't know
Total Respondents	85	12	3
Under 65	87	11	3
65+	79	16	6

8. **(Asked if favor)** Would you still favor if it meant more government spending to pay for it?

Q7/Q8 Summary

	Oppose				
	Favor	NET	Oppose before challenge	Oppose if meant more government spending	Don't know
Total Respondents	76	20	12	8	5
Under 65	77	19	11	8	4
65+	67	22	16	6	11

9. I'm going to read you two proposals to help people age 65 and over to pay for prescription drugs. Please tell me which of those two proposals you would prefer. (READ ITEMS) Which do you prefer, (expanding Medicare) or (government help to buy PRIVATE health insurance plans)?

- 1 Expanding Medicare to pay directly for part of prescription medicine costs for people age 65 and over
- 2 Having the federal government help people age 65 and over to buy PRIVATE health insurance plans that would pay part of their prescription medicine costs

	Expanding Medicare	Having Federal Government help people	Both equally	Neither	Don't know
Total Respondents	62	32	2	2	2
Under 65	61	34	1	2	2
65+	62	28	2	3	4

10. **(Asked of total respondents who prefer one of the two proposals)** Still thinking about prescription drugs for people age 65 and over (READ ITEMS)

- b. People who favor providing drug coverage to seniors through the Medicare program say it guarantees that the same coverage is available to all seniors, and say that private insurers won't make prescription drug insurance policies available to everyone

On the other hand...

- a. People who favor providing drug coverage to seniors through private insurance companies say this gives seniors a greater choice of plans and minimizes government control over prescription drug benefits and prices.

Having heard these arguments, would you still favor a plan that (ANSWER GIVEN IN Q.9) or would you now prefer a plan that (OTHER CHOICE IN Q.9)?

	Expanding Medicare	Having Federal Government help people	Both equally	Neither	Don't know
Total Respondents	60	35	1	1	3
Under 65	60	36	1	1	3
65+	61	28	2	2	7

Q9/Q10 Summary table

	Expanding Medicare	Having Federal Government help people	Both equally	Neither	Don't know
Total Respondents	56	33	2	3	6
Under 65	57	34	2	2	5
65+	55	26	4	5	10

11. Have you seen or heard any advertisements related to the debate over whether Medicare should offer prescription drug coverage for seniors?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	31	67	1
Under 65	30	69	1
65+	38	60	2

12. (Asked of total respondents who have seen or heard any advertisements) Do you happen to remember who may have sponsored the ad you saw?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	17	79	4
Under 65	17	80	3
65+	16	78	5

13. **(Asked of total respondents who remember who sponsored the ad)** Can you tell me who you think the sponsors were?

	Total Respondents
Political Sponsors (Net)	55
Politicians/congressman/Republicans and Democrats (unspecified)	14
Al Gore/Al Gore's campaign	11
Democratic party/committees/groups	10
George Bush/George Bush's campaign	8
Republican party/committees/groups	5
President Clinton	3
Spence Abraham	1
Other political sponsors mentions	6
Health Care Industry (Net)	18
Pharmaceutical companies/manufacturers	10
Insurance industry/companies	4
Other health care industry mentions	5
Senior Citizens Organizations/Publications (Net)	9
AARP	7
Other senior citizens organizations/publications mentions	3
Media (Net)	4
Fox channel	1
Other media mentions	3
Other	8
Don't know	8

11/12/13 SUMMARY TABLE

	Total Respondents
Seen/Heard Advertisements (Net)	31
Remember Sponsor (Subnet)	5
Political Sponsors (Subnet)	3
Politicians/congressman/Republicans and Democrats (unspecified)	1
Al Gore/Al Gore's campaign	1
Democratic party/committees/groups	1
George Bush/George Bush's campaign	*
Republican party/committees/groups	*
President Clinton	*
Spence Abraham	*
Other political sponsors mentions	*
Health Care Industry (Net)	1
Pharmaceutical companies/manufacturers	1
Insurance industry/companies	*
Other health care industry mentions	*
Senior Citizens Organizations/Publications (Net)	*
AARP	*
Other senior citizens organizations/publications mentions	*
Media (Net)	*
Fox channel	*
Other media mentions	*
Other	*
Do not remember sponsor	25
Have not seen/heard advertisements	67
Don't know	1

14. **(Asked of total respondents who have seen or heard any advertisements)** To the best of your knowledge, were these ads for or against providing prescription drug coverage directly through the Medicare program, or did you see some ads for this proposal and other ads against it?

	For	Against	Both For and Against	Don't know
Total Respondents	45	18	20	18
Under 65	46	18	18	19
65+	42	16	27	15

Q11/Q14 Summary Table

	Seen/Heard Advertisement				Have Not Seen	Don't Know
	NET	For	Against	Both		
Total Respondents	31	14	5	6	67	1
Under 65	30	14	5	5	69	1
65+	38	16	6	10	60	2

15. I'd like your opinion of current government regulation of prescription drugs in some different areas. Is there too much regulation in this area, not as much as there should be, or about the right amount of regulation? How about ...(READ ITEM)?

	Too Much	Not As Much As Should Be	Right Amount	Don't Know
Total Respondents				
a. Making sure prescription drugs are safe for people to use.	12	36	48	3
b. Making sure that statements about benefits and possible side effects made in advertisements for prescription drugs are not misleading	8	37	51	4
c. Limiting the price of prescription drugs	15	60	19	6

	Too Much	Not As Much As Should Be	Right Amount	Don't Know
Under 65				
a. Making sure prescription drugs are safe for people to use.	13	36	49	2
b. Making sure that statements about benefits and possible side effects made in advertisements for prescription drugs are not misleading	8	37	52	3
c. Limiting the price of prescription drugs	15	62	19	4

	Too Much	Not As Much As Should Be	Right Amount	Don't Know
65+				
a. Making sure prescription drugs are safe for people to use.	11	39	44	6
b. Making sure that statements about benefits and possible side effects made in advertisements for prescription drugs are not misleading	10	38	42	10
c. Limiting the price of prescription drugs	19	54	17	10

16. **(Asked of total respondents who believe there is not as much regulation as there should be to limiting the prices of prescription drugs)** What if you heard that limiting the prices of prescription drugs might lead to LESS research and development of new drugs since drug companies would be making smaller profits. Would you still think there should be more regulation of the prices charged for prescription drugs?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	69	27	4
Under 65	67	28	5
65+	80	17	2

Q15c/Q16 Summary

	Not As Much As There Should Be					Don't Know
	Too Much Regulation	NET	Even If Less Research and Development/Smaller Profits	Not If Less Research and Development/Smaller Profits	Right Amount	
Total Respondents	15	60	42	16	19	8
Under 65	15	62	41	17	19	7
65+	19	54	43	9	17	11

- 16a. As you may know, prices of prescription drugs are often less expensive in other countries. Do you favor or oppose allowing pharmacies and wholesalers to import these lower priced prescription drugs from other countries, as long as the safety of the drugs is guaranteed by the FDA?

	Favor	Oppose	Don't know
Total Respondents	79	19	3
Under 65	80	18	2
65+	73	23	5

- 16b. **(Asked of total respondents who favor allowing pharmacies and wholesalers to import these lower priced prescription drugs from other countries as long as the safety of the drugs is guaranteed by the FDA.)** What if you heard that importing lower priced prescription drugs might lead to LESS research and development of new drugs since drug companies would be making smaller profits. Would you still favor importing lower priced prescription drugs from other countries?

	Favor	Oppose	Don't know
Total Respondents	64	31	5
Under 65	65	31	5
65+	58	34	8

Q16a/Q16b Summary Table

	Favor, Even If Less Research/Smaller Profits	Oppose			Don't Know
		NET	Oppose Before Challenge	Oppose If Less Research And Development/Smaller Profits	
Total Respondents	50	43	19	24	7
Under 65	52	42	18	24	6
65+	42	47	23	25	11

17. In most cases, do you think brand name prescription drugs, that is those made by a single well-known company, are better, worse, or about the same in quality as generic prescription drugs, which contain the same active ingredients?

	Better	Worse	About the Same	Don't know
Total Respondents	14	3	80	3
Under 65	14	3	80	3
65+	13	2	79	6

18. **(Asked of half of total respondents)** Do you think health plans should pay for brand name prescription drugs when a patient requests them, even if a cheaper generic drug is available, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	50	47	2
Under 65	52	47	2
65+	44	50	6

19. **(Asked of half of total respondents)** Do you think health plans should pay for brand name prescription drugs when a doctor requests them, even if a cheaper generic drug is available, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	64	32	4
Under 65	65	32	3
65+	58	36	6

20. **(Asked of total respondents who think health plans should pay for brand name prescription drugs)** Would you still favor this if it meant that you would have to pay higher health insurance premiums?

Q18/Q20 Summary

		Oppose			
	Favor, Even If It Means Higher Premiums	NET	Oppose Before Challenge	Oppose If Meant Higher Health Insurance Premiums	Don't Know
Total Respondents	28	67	47	20	2
Under 65	31	65	47	19	2
65+	13	76	50	26	6

Q19/Q20 Summary

		Oppose			
	Favor, Even If It Means Higher Premiums	NET	Oppose Before Challenge	Oppose If Meant Higher Health Insurance Premiums	Don't Know
Total Respondents	40	55	32	23	4
Under 65	41	55	32	23	3
65+	33	58	36	22	6

Moving to a different topic, now I have some questions about YOUR health insurance coverage and prescription drug use.

Just to remind you when we speak of prescription medicines we mean medicines that can ONLY be bought if you have a prescription from a doctor. Prescription drugs do NOT include vitamins, herbal medicines like St. Johns' Wort and ginseng, or medicines you can buy without a prescription, like aspirin.

33. About how many separate bottles of prescription drugs would you estimate you have in your medicine cabinet right now? Please include all bottles of prescription drugs, even if you and your family members are not currently taking them.

	None	1	2-3	4-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21 or more	Don't Know
Total Respondents	18	10	23	18	18	6	3	3	*
Under 65	20	11	23	17	17	5	3	3	1
65+	9	6	24	22	25	10	2	3	-

21. Do you currently have health care coverage from any health plan or health insurance program including those provided by the government, such as Medicare or Medicaid, or do you not have any health insurance at this time?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	81	19	*
Under 65	79	21	*
65+	92	8	-

- 21a. **(Asked of total respondents who have health insurance, don't know or refused question)** At ANY time in the past 12 months, have you, a family member, or a close friend been without health insurance?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	26	72	1
Under 65	29	70	1
65+	15	82	4

Q21/Q21a Summary

	You/Family Member/Close Friend Ever Without Coverage In The past 12 Months	No One In Family/No Close Friends Ever Without Coverage In The Past 12 Months	Don't Know
Total Respondents	40	59	1
Under 65	44	55	1
65+	21	75	3

- 21b. **(Asked of total respondents who have health insurance)** Now, I'm going to ask you about the way your MAIN health plan works. Some plans charge less if you choose your doctor from a list, but make you pay more if you go to a doctor not on the list. In general, does your plan work this way, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	60	35	5
Under 65	67	29	4
65+	28	63	9

- 21c. **(Asked of total respondents who have health insurance)** Some plans require you to sign up with a specific primary care doctor or group of doctors who provide all your routine health care. In general, does your plan work this way, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	51	46	3
Under 65	56	41	2
65+	30	65	5

- 21d. **(Asked of total respondents who have health insurance)** Some plans require you to have a referral by a primary care doctor before you can see a medical specialist. Does your plan work this way, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	60	35	5
Under 65	66	30	4
65+	37	55	8

- 21e. **(Asked of total respondents who have health insurance)** Some plans require you to have approval or a referral before they will pay for any of your costs for visiting a doctor who is not in the plan. In general, does your plan work this way, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	48	43	9
Under 65	53	38	8
65+	24	63	12

22. **(Asked of total respondents who have health insurance)** Does your current health insurance plan help you pay for prescription drugs?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	86	13	1
Under 65	92	7	1
65+	61	39	-

23. **(Asked of total respondents who do not say they have health insurance or prescription drug coverage)** Do you currently have any type of insurance that helps you pay for prescription drugs?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	15	84	1
Under 65	16	83	2
65+	13	87	-

Q22/Q23 Summary

	Have Prescription Drug Coverage	Don't Have Prescription Drug Coverage	Don't Know If Have Prescription Drug Coverage
Total Respondents	74	25	*
Under 65	76	23	1
65+	62	38	-

24. When you get a prescription filled, do you usually get a name brand drug or a generic drug?

	Brand name drug	Generic drug	Both about equally	Don't know
Total Respondents	27	54	13	6
Under 65	27	56	11	6
65+	31	43	19	6

24. (Item "a" is asked of total respondents. Items "b and c" are asked of total respondents who have prescription drug coverage) How worried are you that in the near future (READ AND ROTATE OPTIONS) ... Would you say very worried, somewhat worried, not very worried, or not at all worried?

	Worried			Not worried			Don't know
	NET	Very	Some-what	NET	Not Very	Not At All	
Total Respondents							
a. The amount you or your family pay for prescription drugs will increase?	60	26	34	39	23	16	1
b. Your Health Plan Will Not Cover a Drug That You or Your Family Might Need?	58	29	28	41	22	19	1
c. Your health plan Might Require That You or Your Family Use Generic Drugs Instead of Brand Name Drugs?	28	11	17	71	31	41	1
d. Your Health Plan Will Raise the Share You Pay Directly for Drugs You or Your Family Need?	60	26	35	39	23	16	1

	Worried			Not worried			Don't know
	NET	Very	Some-what	NET	Not Very	Not At All	
Under 65							
a. The amount you or your family pay for prescription drugs will increase?	60	25	35	39	24	15	1
b. Your Health Plan Will Not Cover a Drug That You or Your Family Might Need?	59	29	29	41	23	18	1
c. Your health plan Might Require That You or Your Family Use Generic Drugs Instead of Brand Name Drugs?	28	11	17	72	31	41	1
d. Your Health Plan Will Raise the Share You Pay Directly for Drugs You or Your Family Need?	61	26	36	38	23	15	1

	Worried			Not worried			Don't know
	NET	Very	Some-what	NET	Not Very	Not At All	
65+							
a. The amount you or your family pay for prescription drugs will increase?	62	29	33	36	18	18	2
b. Your Health Plan Will Not Cover a Drug That You or Your Family Might Need?	53	30	23	46	19	27	2
c. Your health plan Might Require That You or Your Family Use Generic Drugs Instead of Brand Name Drugs?	28	13	15	70	30	40	2
d. Your Health Plan Will Raise the Share You Pay Directly for Drugs You or Your Family Need?	55	25	30	43	22	21	2

26. How much of a problem is it for you or your family to pay for prescription medicines that you need? Is it... (READ LIST)?

	A Serious Problem	A Problem But Not Serious	Not Much Of A Problem	Don't Know
Total Respondents	14	23	63	1
Under 65	13	22	64	*
65+	23	23	54	*

27. Have you ever NOT filled a prescription because of the cost?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	29	71	*
Under 65	32	68	*
65+	16	84	*

Q26/Q27 Summary

	Have Had Problem Paying Or Have Not Filled A Prescription	Have Not Had Problem Paying Or Filling Prescription	Don't Know
Total Respondents	47	52	1
Under 65	47	53	1
65+	48	51	*

28. (Asked of total respondents who have had problems paying for prescription drugs or have not filled a prescription because of cost) In order to buy prescription drugs for yourself or your family, do you have to give up other things?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	54	46	-
Under 65	57	43	-
65+	43	57	-

29. (Asked of total respondents who have had problems paying for prescription drugs or have not filled a prescription because of cost and have to give up other things to pay for prescription drugs) What do you have to give up to pay for prescription drugs?

	Total Respondents	Under 65	65+
Necessities (Net)	38	37	43
Buy less groceries/cut down on food/buy cheaper cuts of meat	31	30	38
Clothes/give up clothing purchases/buy cheaper clothes	9	9	8
Necessities/getting things that we need	3	2	4
Cancel our health insurance	1	1	-
Other necessities mentions	1	1	1
Recreational Activities/Entertainment (Net)	27	27	27
Entertainment/recreational activities/leisurely activities (unspecified)	13	14	10
Eating out/going out to dinner/going out to lunch	8	8	9
Going to the movie theater	4	4	2
Cable TV	2	2	1

Vacations	2	2	4
Traveling/personal trips	2	1	6
Going to a show/club	1	1	1
Music tapes	*	*	1
Magazines/books	*	-	2
Other recreational activities/entertainment mentions	2	2	1
Household Bills (Net)	25	26	13
Not paying other bills/paying only portions of other bills/paying bills late	23	25	10
Cut back on our utilities (electric, water, etc.)	1	1	4
Cancel our phone service	*	*	1
Other household bills mentions	*	-	1
Non-Essential Purchases (Net)	12	11	14
Non-essential items/luxury items/extra pleasure items	6	6	9
Toys/treats/entertainment/activities for the kids	2	2	-
Jewelry	1	1	-
Cigarettes	1	1	-
Personal care items (haircuts, etc.)	1	1	-
Other non-essential purchases mentions	2	2	5
Tighten budget overall/makes us tight/watch what we spend more closely/cut back wherever we can/cut back a little on everything	9	8	15
Car Expenses/Transportation (Net)	9	9	8
Cut back on gasoline/less driving	7	7	4
Keep old car/don't buy a new car/only use one car instead of two	1	1	3
Car expenses/repairs	*	*	-
Other car expenses/transportation mentions	1	1	2
Use of Additional Income Resources (Net)	4	4	1
Borrow money	1	1	-
Pawn some of our belongings	1	1	-
Dip into my savings/college funds	1	1	-
Have to work more	1	1	1
Other use of additional income resources mentions	1	1	-
Medicine (Net)	3	2	7
Sometimes I just can't afford the medicine/just don't have the money/sometimes I can't get the medicine at all	1	1	2
Ration medicines/take only half a dose instead of a whole dose/get only the more important medicine/give up other needed medicines	1	1	3
Other medicine mentions	1	1	2
Depends on the situation/how much the medicine costs/varies	1	1	1
Pet food	1	1	-
Other	4	4	3
Don't know	5	5	5

30. Do you use any prescription drugs regularly during certain seasons of the year, such as for seasonal allergies?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	25	75	*
Under 65	26	74	-
65+	19	81	*

31. Not including any drugs you take seasonally, how often would you say you take prescription drugs? Would you say regularly, sometimes, hardly ever, or never?

	Take Non-Seasonally Prescription Drugs					Don't Know
	NET	Regularly	Sometimes	Hardly Ever	Never	
Total Respondents	90	42	14	34	10	*
Under 65	90	35	15	39	10	-
65+	93	79	6	8	6	1

32. (Asked of total respondents who take prescription drugs) How many different prescription drugs would you say you are taking or using on a regular basis right now? By regular basis, we mean on an ongoing basis or always during a particular season. Would you say one prescription, two, three, more than three, or none?

	Not heavy				Heavy			Don't Know
	NET	None	One	Two	NET	Three	Four +	
Total Respondents	74	35	25	14	26	10	16	*
Under 65	81	41	27	13	19	8	11	-
65+	41	6	15	20	59	17	42	*

Q30/Q31/Q32 Summary

	Take prescription drugs						Don't take prescription drugs
	NET	None	One	Two	Three	Four +	
Total Respondents	91	32	23	13	9	15	9
Under 65	90	37	24	12	7	10	10
65+	93	6	14	18	16	39	7

34. Record gender of respondent by observation

	Male	Female
Total Respondents	48	52
Under 65	51	49
65+	35	65

35. (Asked of total respondents who take prescription drugs ,“l” and “m” are asked only of females who take prescription drugs) Thinking about all the prescription drugs you use regularly, do you take any prescription drugs for (READ LIST)? How about for (READ ITEMS)?

Total Respondents	Yes	No	Don't Know
a. Some kind of mental health condition, such as depression or anxiety	11	89	-
b. High blood pressure, hypertension, or cholesterol	27	73	-
c. An allergy	20	80	*
d. Diabetes	6	94	-
e. Arthritis	13	87	*
h. Cancer prevention or treatment	2	98	*
k. Weight problems or a thyroid problem	7	93	*
l. Birth control	14	86	-
m. Menopause	15	85	*
n. Osteoporosis prevention	5	95	*
o. Pain	20	79	*

Under 65	Yes	No	Don't Know
a. Some kind of mental health condition, such as depression or anxiety	11	89	-
b. High blood pressure, hypertension, or cholesterol	19	81	-
c. An allergy	20	80	*
d. Diabetes	4	96	-
e. Arthritis	8	91	*
h. Cancer prevention or treatment	2	98	-
k. Weight problems or a thyroid problem	6	94	*
l. Birth control	17	83	-
m. Menopause	14	86	*
n. Osteoporosis prevention	3	97	*
o. Pain	19	81	-

65+	Yes	No	Don't Know
a. Some kind of mental health condition, such as depression or anxiety	11	89	-
b. High blood pressure, hypertension, or cholesterol	68	32	-
c. An allergy	19	81	-
d. Diabetes	15	85	-
e. Arthritis	34	66	-
h. Cancer prevention or treatment	3	97	*
k. Weight problems or a thyroid problem	14	86	-
l. Birth control	1	99	-
m. Menopause	16	84	-
n. Osteoporosis prevention	13	86	*
o. Pain	29	71	*

36. In the past year, how much money did you or your family spend on prescription drugs, not counting what health insurance or Medicare paid for? Would you say ... (READ ITEMS)?

	Not high					High			Don't know
	NET	< \$50	\$50< \$100	\$100< \$300	\$300< \$500	NET	\$500< \$1000	\$1000+	
Total Respondents	80	25	15	26	13	17	9	8	3
Under 65	84	27	17	28	12	14	8	6	2
65+	60	15	9	19	18	33	14	19	7

37. **(Asked of total respondents with prescription drug coverage)** In the last 12 months, have you ever had to pay the full amount for a prescription drug, with no help from your health plan?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	24	76	*
Under 65	24	75	*
65+	24	75	1

21/22/23/27 SUMMARY TABLE

	Have health insurance						
	Prescription drug coverage					Do not have health insurance	Don't know
	NET	SUBNET	Yes, in past 12 months paid full amount for drugs	No, in past 12 months paid full amount for drugs	No, Rx drug coverage		
Total Respondents	81	74	18	56	25	19	*
Under 65	79	76	18	58	23	21	*
65+	92	62	15	47	38	8	-

38. When you buy prescription drugs, would you say you often, sometimes, or have never bought them (READ ITEMS)?

Total Respondents	Often	Sometimes	Never	Don't have access to the Internet (for item "c" only, volunteered)	Don't know
a. At a large drug store or other large chain store	48	26	26	-	*
b. At an independent neighborhood drug store	29	25	46	-	*
c. Over the Internet	*	2	96	2	-
d. By mail-order	6	5	89	-	*
e. Directly through your health plan	18	6	45	-	1
f. From another country either by travelling there or over the Internet	1	5	94	-	*

Under 65	Often	Sometimes	Never	Don't have access to the Internet (for item "c" only, volunteered)	Don't know
a. At a large drug store or other large chain store	49	28	24	-	*
b. At an independent neighborhood drug store	27	26	47	-	*
c. Over the Internet	*	2	97	1	-
d. By mail-order	5	5	91	-	-
e. Directly through your health plan	18	11	46	-	1
f. From another country either by travelling there or over the Internet	1	5	94	-	-

65+	Often	Sometimes	Never	Don't have access to the Internet (for item "c" only, volunteered)	Don't know
a. At a large drug store or other large chain store	44	21	35	-	1
b. At an independent neighborhood drug store	35	19	45	-	*
c. Over the Internet	1	3	91	6	-
d. By mail-order	13	7	80	-	-
e. Directly through your health plan	13	6	42	-	3
f. From another country either by travelling there or over the Internet	1	3	96	-	*

39. Have you ever wanted a DOCTOR to prescribe a particular brand name drug, but the doctor asked you to get or gave you a prescription for a cheaper, generic version of that drug?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	14	85	1
Under 65	15	85	1
65+	12	86	2

40. Have you ever gone to a PHARMACIST and expected to get a particular brand name drug, but the pharmacist asked you to get or gave you a cheaper, generic version of that drug?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	33	67	1
Under 65	34	65	*
65+	23	75	2

41. **(Asked of total respondents who expected a brand name drug but were given a generic drug)** Thinking of the most recent time this happened, would you have preferred to have the brand name drug instead of the generic drug, or did it make no difference to you?

	Yes, the brand name drug	It did not make a difference	Don't know
Total Respondents	33	65	1
Under 65	35	64	1
65+	22	76	2

39/41 SUMMARY TABLE

	Expected and didn't get brand name drug				
	NET	Preferred brand name	Did not make a difference	Did not expect a brand name drug	Don't know
Total Respondents	14	5	9	85	1
Under 65	15	6	9	85	1
65+	12	3	9	86	2

40/41 SUMMARY TABLE

	Expected and didn't get brand name drug				
	NET	Preferred brand name	Did not make a difference	Did not expect a brand name drug	Don't know
Total Respondents	33	11	21	67	1
Under 65	34	12	22	65	*
65+	23	5	17	75	2

42. Last time you got a prescription for a drug you had never taken before, how confident were you that you had enough information about the drug? Would you say very confident, somewhat confident, not very confident, or not at all confident?

	Confident			Not confident			
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not very	Not at all	Don't know
Total Respondents	87	55	32	11	7	4	2
Under 65	87	53	34	11	7	4	2
65+	84	63	21	12	7	6	4

43. Have you ever looked for information about a prescription drug on the Internet?

	Yes	No	Don't have access to Internet	Don't know
Total Respondents	22	75	2	*
Under 65	25	74	1	*
65+	7	85	9	-

44. **(Asked of total respondents who have looked on the Internet for information of prescription drugs)** For each of the following, please tell me if this was a reason you looked for information on the Internet?
 Did you look for information on the Internet because ...(READ ITEMS)? How about...(READ NEXT ITEM)?

Total Respondents	Yes	No	Don't know
a. You were looking for information before you went to see your doctor	37	63	*
c. You had questions about the drug that you thought of after you'd already seen your doctor and pharmacist	68	31	1
d. You had questions about the drug that you were not comfortable asking your doctor or pharmacist	17	83	*
e. You had questions about the drug that your doctor or pharmacist was not able to answer clearly enough	30	70	-
f. You wanted to find a cheaper drug	8	92	-

45. How often would you say you get advice from your friends or family about which prescription drugs to take?

	Often			Not very often/almost never			Don't know
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not very	Almost never	
Total Respondents	20	6	14	80	19	61	*
Under 65	22	7	16	78	19	58	*
65+	10	4	7	89	15	75	*

46. Please tell me how much you trust each of the following sources to provide accurate information about prescription medicines. (First,) what about... (READ ITEMS)?

(READ FIRST TIME, THEN AS NECESSARY: Do you trust them a lot, somewhat, not too much, or not at all (to provide accurate information about prescription medicines)?)

	A lot/Somewhat			Not too much/Not at all			Don't know
	NET	A lot	Somewhat	NET	Not too much	Not at all	
Total Respondents							
a. Your doctor	95	73	22	4	3	2	1
b. Your pharmacist	93	65	28	6	3	3	1
c. Your family and friends	61	22	38	38	18	20	1
d. Government agencies like the FDA – that is, the Food and Drug Administration	80	35	45	18	10	8	2
e. Advertisements for prescription medicines	48	7	41	50	28	23	1
f. The information about the product included in packages of prescription medicine	89	47	42	10	7	3	1

	A lot/Somewhat			Not too much/Not at all			Don't know
	NET	A lot	Somewhat	NET	Not too much	Not at all	
Under 65							
a. Your doctor	95	72	23	5	3	2	1
b. Your pharmacist	93	63	30	6	3	3	1
c. Your family and friends	64	23	41	36	19	17	1
d. Government agencies like the FDA – that is, the Food and Drug Administration	82	36	45	17	10	7	1
e. Advertisements for prescription medicines	51	7	44	48	28	20	1
f. The information about the product included in packages of prescription medicine	90	47	43	9	6	3	1

	A lot/Somewhat			Not too much/Not at all			Don't know
	NET	A lot	Somewhat	NET	Not too much	Not at all	
65+							
a. Your doctor	96	80	17	3	2	1	*
b. Your pharmacist	94	77	17	5	2	3	1
c. Your family and friends	46	23	22	51	16	34	4
d. Government agencies like the FDA – that is, the Food and Drug Administration	71	27	44	22	10	12	7
e. Advertisements for prescription medicines	35	8	28	61	25	35	4
f. The information about the product included in packages of prescription medicine	82	47	35	15	9	6	3

Now I have a question about drugs that you can buy over-the-counter, WITHOUT a prescription from a doctor, like a cough or cold medicine or painkillers like aspirin or Tylenol. Over-the-counter drugs do NOT include vitamins and herbal medicines like St. John's Wort and ginseng.

47. Do you take any over-the-counter drugs regularly during certain seasons of the year, like for seasonal allergies?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	36	64	-
Under 65	38	62	-
65+	28	72	-

48. Not including any drugs you take seasonally, how often would you say you take over-the-counter drugs? Would you say regularly, sometimes, hardly ever, or never?

	Regularly	Sometimes	Hardly ever	Never	Don't know
Total Respondents	21	38	33	8	*
Under 65	19	39	34	7	*
65+	29	30	29	12	-

49. **(Asked of total respondents who take over-the-counter drugs)** How many different over-the-counter drugs would you say you are taking or using on a regular basis right now? By regular basis, we mean on an ongoing basis or always during a particular season. Would you say one, two, three, more than that, or none?

	None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five or more	Don't know
Total Respondents	37	37	18	7	1	1	*
Under 65	38	36	17	7	1	1	*
65+	29	40	20	7	2	2	1

46/48/49 SUMMARY TABLE

	Take over-the-counter drugs						Never
	NET	One	Two	Three	Four	Five or more	
Total Respondents	93	34	16	7	1	1	7
Under 65	93	34	16	7	1	1	7
65+	89	35	17	6	2	1	11

50. **(Asked of total respondents who take over-the-counter drugs)** When you buy over-the-counter drugs, do you usually get a name brand drug or a generic drug?

	Usually get name brand drug	Usually get generic drug	Both about equally	Don't know
Total Respondents	53	36	9	2
Under 65	53	37	9	1
65+	54	33	8	4

47/48/50 SUMMARY TABLE

	NET	Usually get name brand drug	Usually get generic drug	Both about equally	Never
Total Respondents	93	49	33	9	7
Under 65	93	49	34	9	7
65+	89	48	29	8	11

Now I have some questions about prescription drug advertisements.

51. In the last year, have you seen (or heard) any advertisements for prescription medicine...(READ ITEMS)?

Total Respondents	Yes	No	Don't know
a. On a billboard	32	66	3
b. In a newspaper or magazine	73	26	1
c. On the TV or radio	86	14	1
d. On the Internet	15	84	1
e. In a letter, flyer, or announcement you got in the mail	33	65	1
f. From some other source I haven't mentioned	6	93	1

Under 65	Yes	No	Don't know
a. On a billboard	34	63	3
b. In a newspaper or magazine	74	25	1
c. On the TV or radio	88	12	*
d. On the Internet	17	82	1
e. In a letter, flyer, or announcement you got in the mail	32	67	1
f. From some other source I haven't mentioned	7	93	*

65+	Yes	No	Don't know
a. On a billboard	19	76	5
b. In a newspaper or magazine	65	34	1
c. On the TV or radio	75	24	1
d. On the Internet	4	96	1
e. In a letter, flyer, or announcement you got in the mail	37	59	4
f. From some other source I haven't mentioned	3	96	2

52. **(Asked of total respondents who have seen or heard advertisements for prescription medicine)** We'd like you to rate the job these advertisements for prescription medicines generally do in telling you about each of the following. What about...(READ ITEMS)?

READ FIRST TIME, THEN AS NECESSARY: Do these advertisements do an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or poor job of telling you about this?

	Excellent/Good			Only fair/Poor			Don't know
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Only fair	Poor	
Total Respondents							
a. The potential benefits you might experience	58	12	46	40	32	8	3
b. The potential side effects you might experience	45	9	36	52	35	17	3
c. What condition or disease the drug is designed to treat	51	9	42	45	35	10	4

	Excellent/Good			Only fair/Poor			Don't know
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Only fair	Poor	
Under 65							
a. The potential benefits you might experience	59	13	47	39	32	7	1
b. The potential side effects you might experience	45	8	37	53	36	17	2
c. What condition or disease the drug is designed to treat	52	9	43	45	35	10	3

	Excellent/Good			Only fair/Poor			Don't know
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Only fair	Poor	
65+							
a. The potential benefits you might experience	45	8	37	43	32	11	11
b. The potential side effects you might experience	46	14	32	46	29	17	8
c. What condition or disease the drug is designed to treat	46	8	38	42	33	10	12

53. **(Asked of total respondents who have not seen or heard advertisements for prescription medicine in the past year)** Have you ever seen or heard any advertisements for prescription medicine?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	21	76	2
Under 65	22	76	2
65+	22	78	1

51/53 SUMMARY TABLE

	NET	Saw/heard advertisement in past 12 months	Saw/heard advertisement ever but not in past year	Never saw/heard advertisement	Don't know
Total Respondents	93	91	2	6	*
Under 65	94	92	2	6	*
65+	88	86	3	10	*

55. **(Asked of total respondents who have seen or heard advertisements for prescription medicine)** As a result of seeing an ad for a prescription medicine, have you ever talked with a doctor about the specific medicine you saw or heard advertised, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	37	63	*
Under 65	37	63	*
65+	36	64	*

56. **(Asked of total respondents who have talked with a doctor about the specific medicine they saw or heard advertised)** Did you specifically ask your doctor to prescribe the medicine you saw advertised or did you just talk to your doctor about the medicine?

	Asked doctor to prescribe	Just talked to doctor	Don't know
Total Respondents	20	80	-
Under 65	22	78	-
65+	10	90	-

51/53/55/56 SUMMARY TABLE

	Have seen or heard ad for prescription medicine						
	Ever talked to doctor						
	NET	SUBNET	Asked doctor to prescribe	Did not ask doctor to prescribe	Never talked to doctor	Have never seen ad for Rx medicine	Don't know
Total Respondents	93	34	7	27	58	6	*
Under 65	94	35	8	27	59	6	*
65+	88	32	3	29	56	10	*

65. Would you say that your health in general is...(READ ITEMS)

	Excellent/Very Good				Fair/Poor			Don't know
	NET	Excellent	Very good	Good	NET	Fair	Poor	
Total Respondents	56	24	31	26	18	13	5	*
Under 65	59	27	32	25	16	12	4	*
65+	39	13	26	32	28	20	8	1

66. Do you have an ongoing or a serious health problem like heart disease, cancer, arthritis, or a mental health condition that requires frequent medical care, for example, regular doctor visits, or daily medications?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	26	74	*
Under 65	21	79	*
65+	53	47	*

D1. What is your marital status? Are you currently married, living as married, separated, divorced, widowed, or have you never been married?

	Married	Living as married	Separated	Divorced	Widowed	Never been married	Don't know
Total Respondents	54	4	1	10	9	22	*
Under 65	55	5	1	11	3	25	-
65+	46	*	1	7	41	3	*

D2. Are you currently working full-time, working part-time, or are you retired, unemployed, a student, a homemaker, or something else?

	Total Respondents	Under 65	65+
Working (NET)	66	76	14
Working full time	55	65	7
Working part time	11	11	7
Retired	16	4	78
Unemployed	5	5	3
A student	4	5	-
Homemaker	7	7	4
Something else	2	3	1
Don't know	*	-	-

D3. Are you self-employed or do you work for someone else?

D2/D3 SUMMARY TABLE

	Total Respondents	Under 65	65+
Working full-time (NET)	55	65	7
Self-employed	6	7	2
Work for someone else	49	57	5
Working part-time (NET)	11	11	7
Self-employed	2	2	1
Work for someone else	8	9	6
Retired	16	4	78
Unemployed	5	5	3
A student	4	5	-
Homemaker	7	7	4
Something else	2	3	1
Don't know	*	-	-

D4. What is the LAST grade or class that you COMPLETED in school?

	Total Respondents	Under 65	65+
High school graduate or less (NET)	51	48	68
Less than high school (SUBNET)	18	15	35
High school graduate (SUBNET)	33	33	33
Some college or more (NET)	49	52	32
Some college, no 4-year degree	26	28	18
College graduate + (SUBNET)	22	24	14
Don't know	*	*	-

D5. What is your age?

	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Total Respondents	22	42	19	16
Under 65	27	50	23	-
65+	-	-	-	100

D6. Are you, yourself, of Hispanic or Latino background, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or other Latin American background?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Total Respondents	10	90	-
Under 65	11	89	-
65+	5	95	-

D7. What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian, or some other race?

	White	Black/African American	Asian	Other/mixed	Don't Know
Total Respondents	79	12	1	7	*
Under 65	78	13	1	8	*
65+	86	10	-	4	*

RACE SUMMARY TABLE

	Total Respondents	Under 65	65+
White Non-Hispanic	74	72	83
Black/African-American Non-Hispanic	11	12	10
Asian American	1	1	-
Some other race	3	4	2
Hispanic (NET)	10	11	5
Don't Know	*	*	-

D8. In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No pref/not interested in politics	Other party	Don't Know
Total Respondents	27	33	31	7	1	1
Under 65	26	32	32	8	1	1
65+	29	41	23	5	*	1

D9. Last year -- that is, in 1999 -- what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? Was it (READ ITEMS)

D10/11. Just stop me when I get to the right category. Was it (READ ITEMS)

	Total Respondents	Under 65	65+
LESS THAN \$50,000 (NET)	59	56	75
<i>Less than \$20,000 (SUBNET)</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>38</i>
<i>\$20,000 to under \$30,000 (SUBNET)</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>30,000 to under \$50,000 (SUBNET)</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Less than \$50,000 (unspec)</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>7</i>
\$50,000 OR MORE (NET)	37	41	17
Don't Know	4	3	8

The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer/Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health

National Survey on Prescription Drugs: Additional Questions

Methodology:

The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer/Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health National Survey on Prescription Drugs is a product of an ongoing partnership between *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer* and the Kaiser Family Foundation to improve coverage of health issues. The Foundation provides financial support for *The NewsHour* Health Desk, conducts surveys with *The NewsHour* and provides background research on certain health-related issues covered by *The NewsHour*. The Kaiser/Harvard survey research team, led by Dr. Mollyann Brodie, Vice President of the Kaiser Family Foundation, and Professor Robert Blendon of the Harvard School of Public Health worked with *The NewsHour* to develop the survey questionnaire and to analyze the results with *The NewsHour* maintaining sole editorial control over its broadcasts on the survey.

These additional results are based on a telephone survey conducted between September 20 and September 24, 2000, among a randomly selected nationally representative sample of 1,004 adults 18 years or older. Fieldwork was conducted by ICR/International Communications Research. The margin of sampling error is +/- 3 percentage points. For results based on subsets of respondents the margin of error is higher. Note that in addition to sampling error there are other possible sources of measurement error. Values less than 0.5 percent are indicated by an asterisk (*).

The Kaiser Family Foundation, based in Menlo Park, California, is a nonprofit, independent national health care philanthropy and is not associated with Kaiser Permanente or Kaiser Industries.

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PD-1 Medicare, the program that provides health insurance primarily to people age 65 and older, does not currently pay for prescription medicines. Which ONE of the following three statements comes closest to your opinion about what the government should do about coverage for prescription medicines for seniors? Do you think the government should...

	Help cover the costs of prescription medicines for ALL seniors - even if it means using MORE money from the federal budget surplus and an increase in the premiums seniors pay	Help cover the costs of prescription medicines for only LOW-INCOME seniors - even if it means using money from the federal budget surplus that could be used for other national priorities	Keep things the way they are now and not add a prescription drug benefit	Don't know
Total Respondents	49	38	10	3

PD-2 I'm going to read you two proposals to help people age 65 and over to pay for prescription drugs. Please tell me which of those two proposals you would prefer. (READ ITEMS) Which do you prefer, (expanding Medicare) or (government help to buy PRIVATE health insurance plans)?

- 1 Expanding Medicare to pay directly for part of prescription medicine costs for people age 65 and over
- 2 Having the federal government help people age 65 and over to buy PRIVATE health insurance plans that would pay part of their prescription medicine costs

	Expanding Medicare	Having Federal Government help people	Both equally	Neither	Don't know
Total Respondents	58	32	1	5	4

PD-3 **(Asked of total respondents who prefer one of the two proposals)** Still thinking about prescription drugs for people age 65 and over (READ ITEMS)

- b. People who favor providing drug coverage to seniors through the Medicare program say it guarantees that the same coverage is available to all seniors, and say that private insurers won't make prescription drug insurance policies available to everyone

On the other hand...

- a. People who favor providing drug coverage to seniors through private insurance companies say this gives seniors a greater choice of plans and minimizes government control over prescription drug benefits and prices.

Having heard these arguments, would you still favor a plan that (ANSWER GIVEN IN PD-2) or would you now prefer a plan that (OTHER CHOICE IN PD-2)?

	Expanding Medicare	Helping Federal Government help people	Both equally	Neither	Don't know
Total Respondents	59	33	1	2	4

PD-2/PD-3 SUMMARY TABLE

	Expanding Medicare	Having Federal Government help people	Both equally	Neither	Don't know
Total Respondents	53	30	2	7	8

- PD-4 I'd like you to rate the chances that you will vote in the next election for president. Are you absolutely certain to vote, will you probably vote, or are the chances 50-50 or less that you will vote?

	Absolutely Certain	Probably	50-50	Don't know
Total Respondents	69	12	18	1

- PD-5 Which do you trust more to provide health insurance to seniors... (READ FIRST ITEM) OR (READ SECOND ITEM)? (ROTATE ITEMS)

	The current government-run Medicare program	Plans offered through the private health care industry	Neither (vol.)	Both equally (vol.)	Don't know
Total Respondents	47	35	5	2	11



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