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**Chartpack**



**HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
JOHN F. KENNEDY  
SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT**

**National Public Radio/Kaiser Family Foundation/Kennedy School of Government**

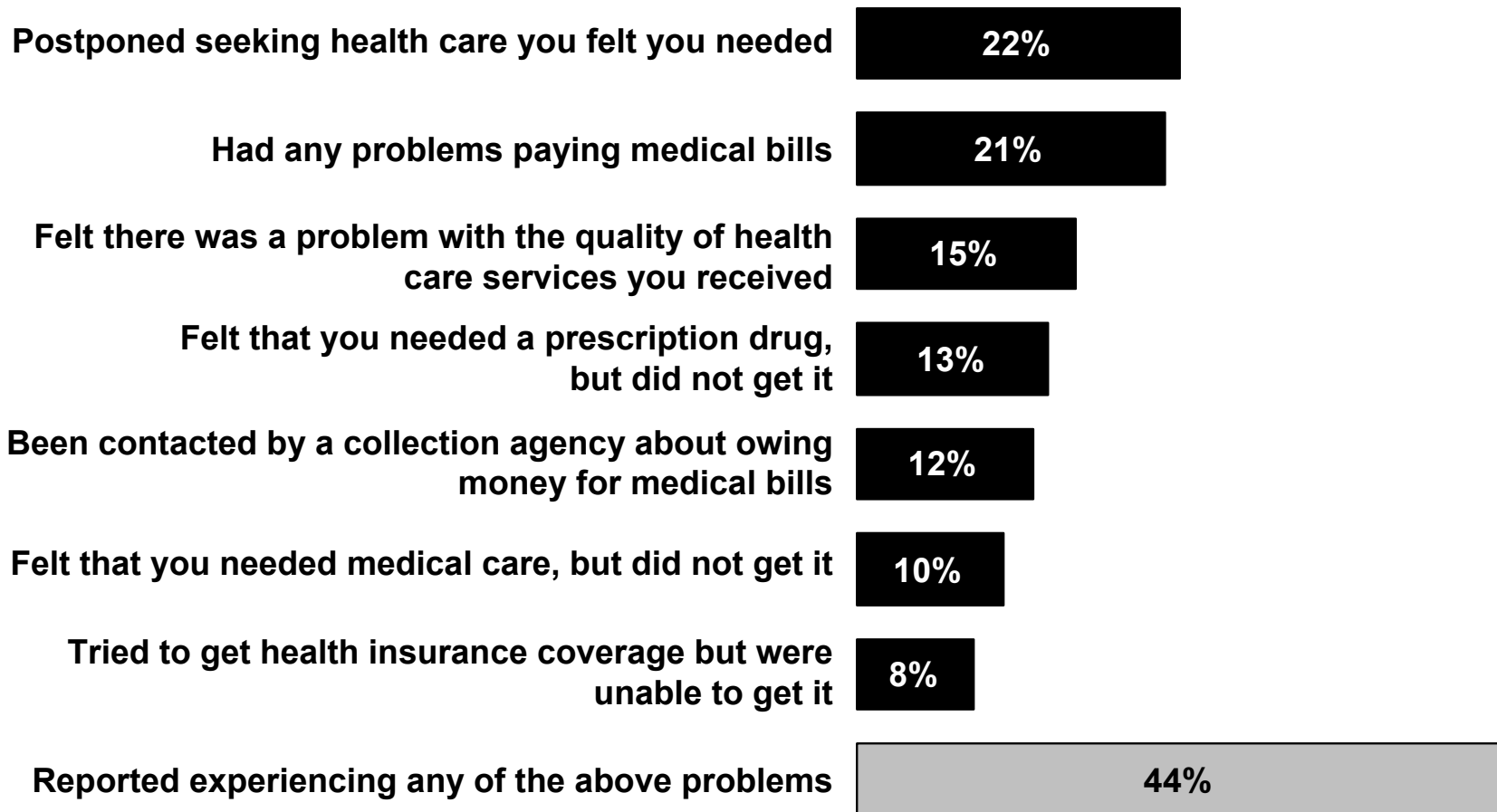
# **National Survey on Health Care**

**June 2002**

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# People's Experiences With the Health Care System

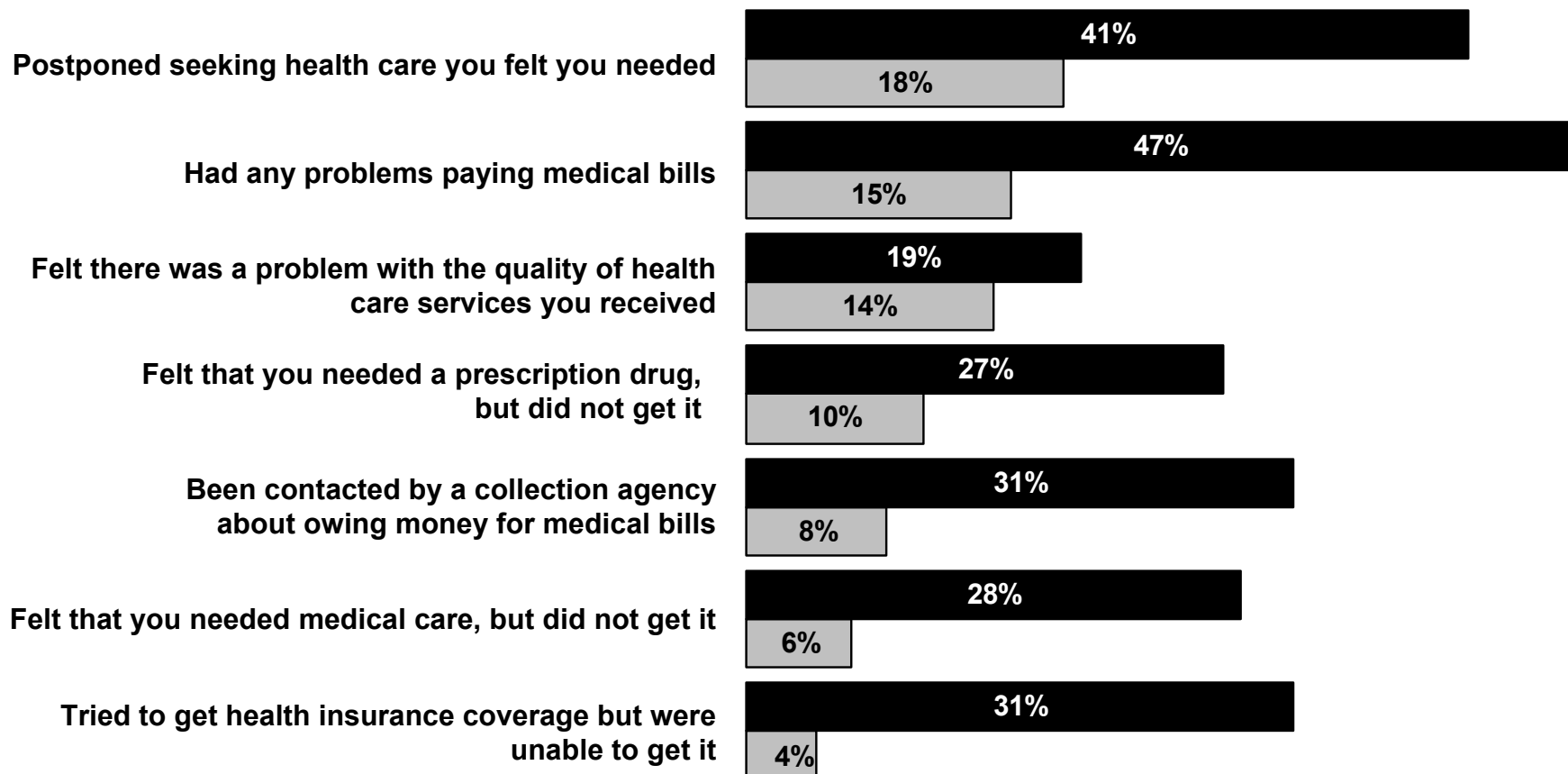
In the past twelve months, have you or another family member living in your household...



# People Without Health Insurance More Likely to Report Problems

In the past twelve months, have you or another family member living in your household...

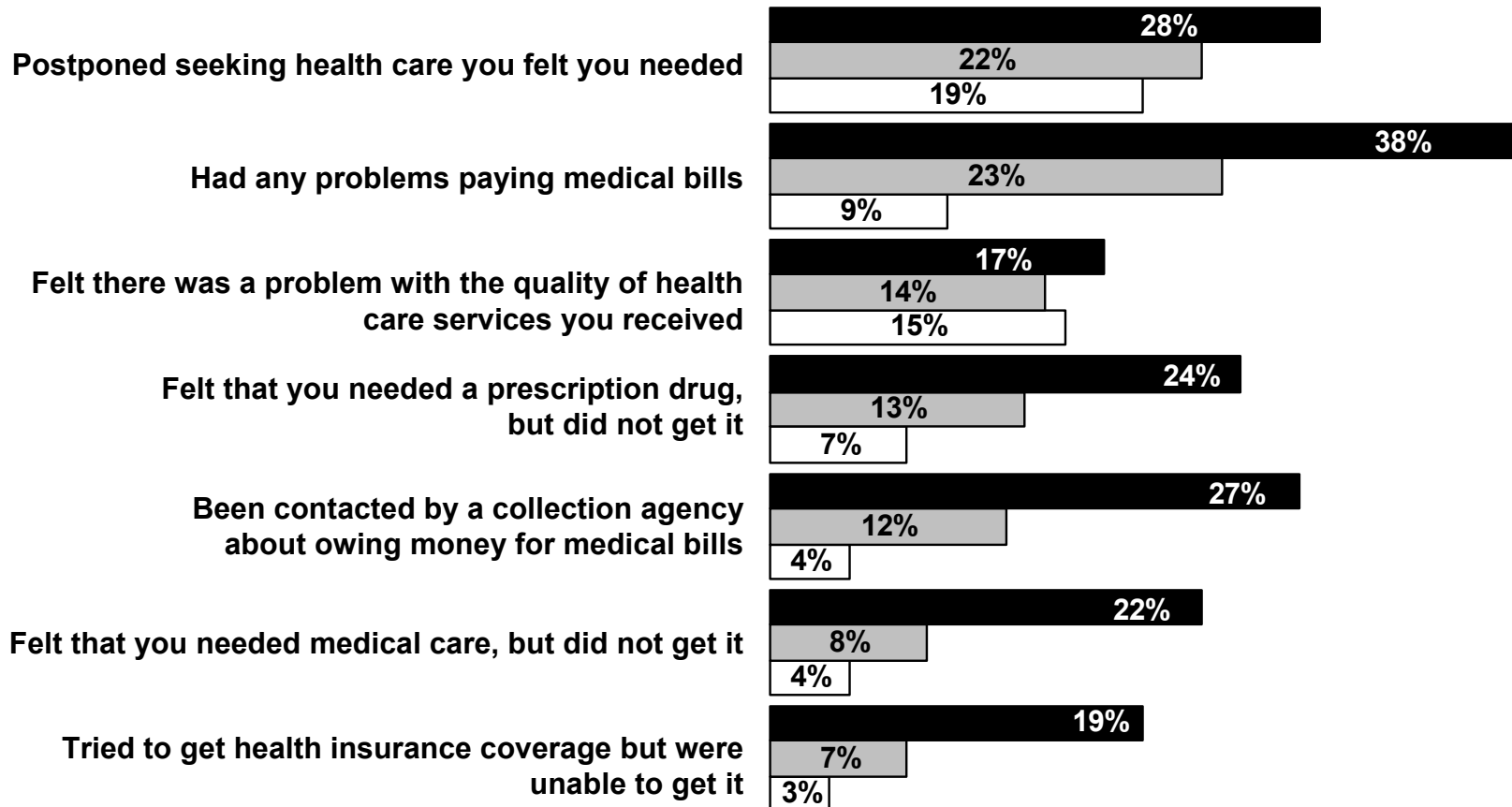
■ Uninsured    ■ Insured



# Low- and Middle-Income Families More Likely to Report Problems

In the past twelve months, have you or another family member living in your household...

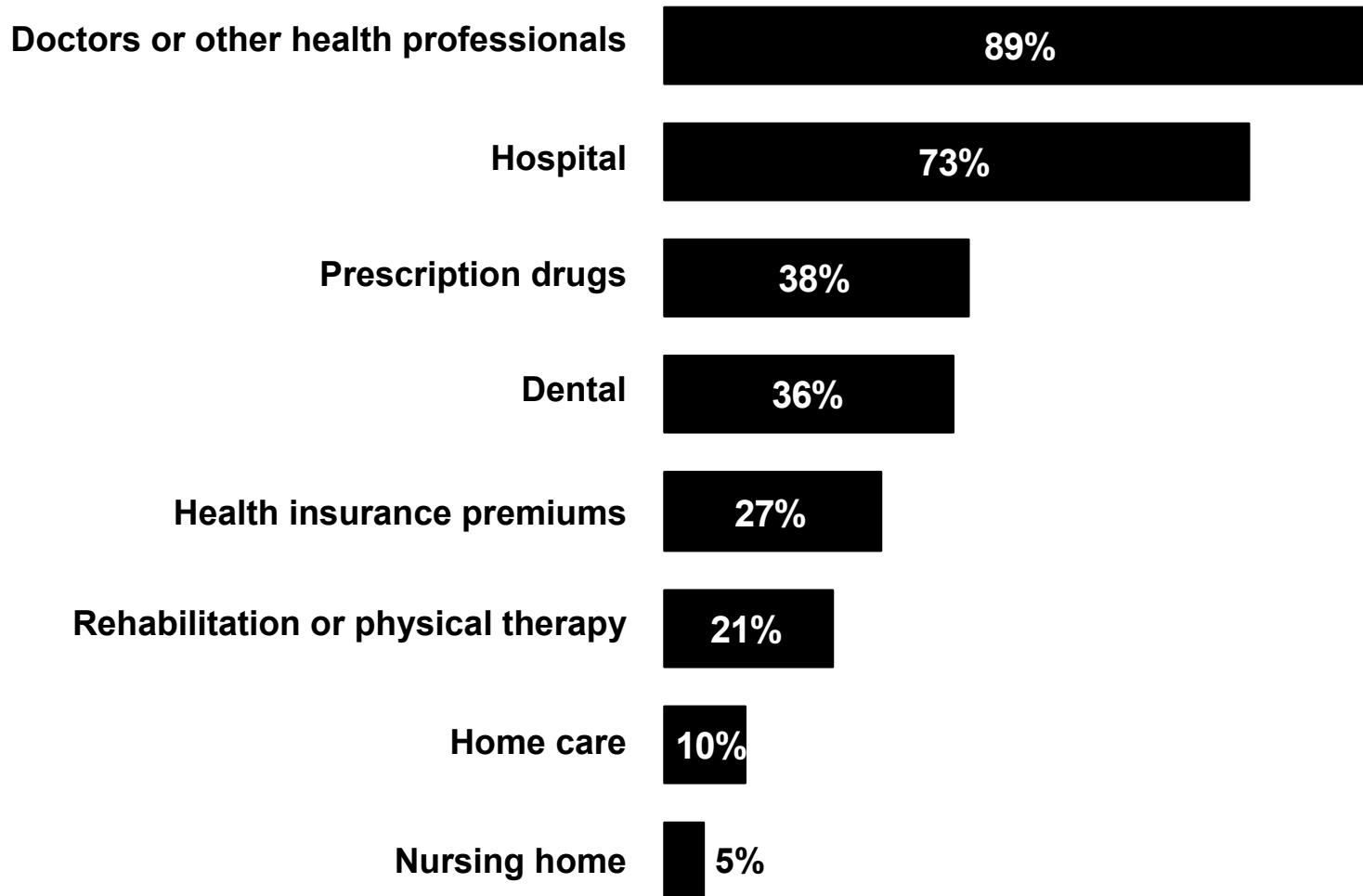
■ Less than \$25,000 per year    ■ \$25,000-\$49,999 per year    □ \$50,000 or more per year



# Hospital and Doctor Bills are Often the Problem

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Among the 21% who had problems paying medical bills, reported they were bills for...



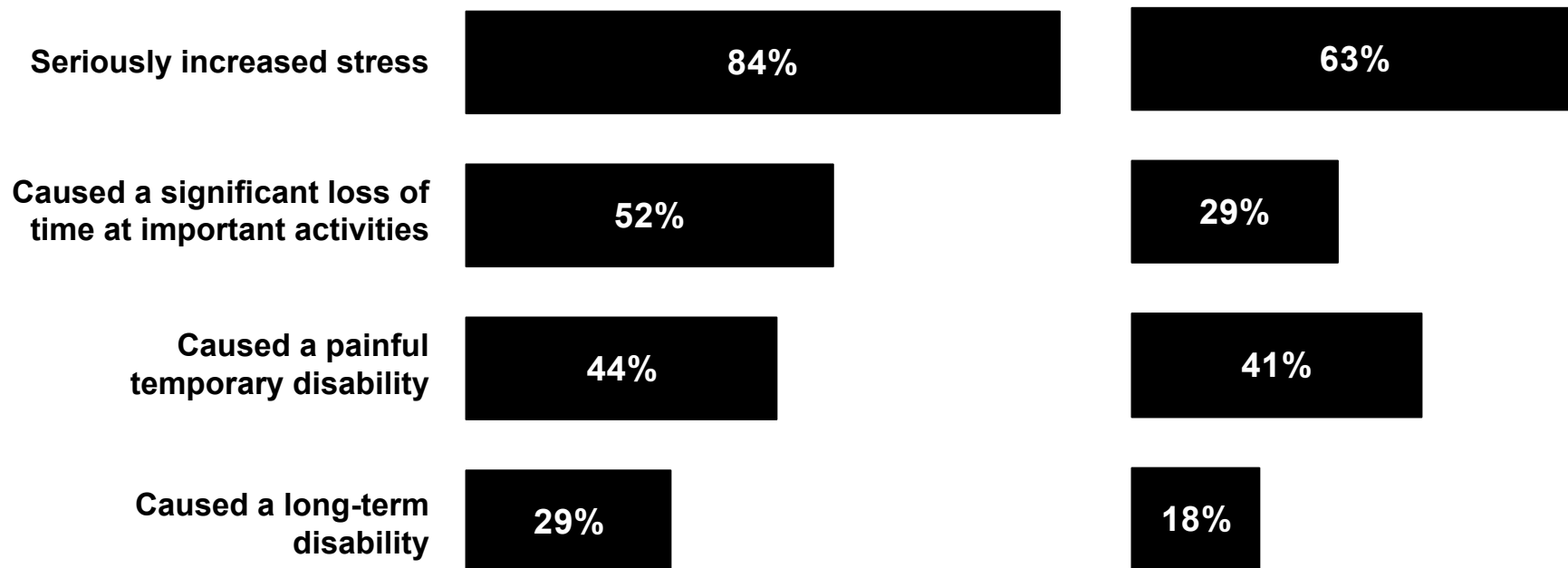
# Problems Sometimes Have Serious Consequences for Families

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Among the 10% who said they *did not get* medical care they felt they needed

Among the 22% who said they *postponed seeking* medical care they felt they needed

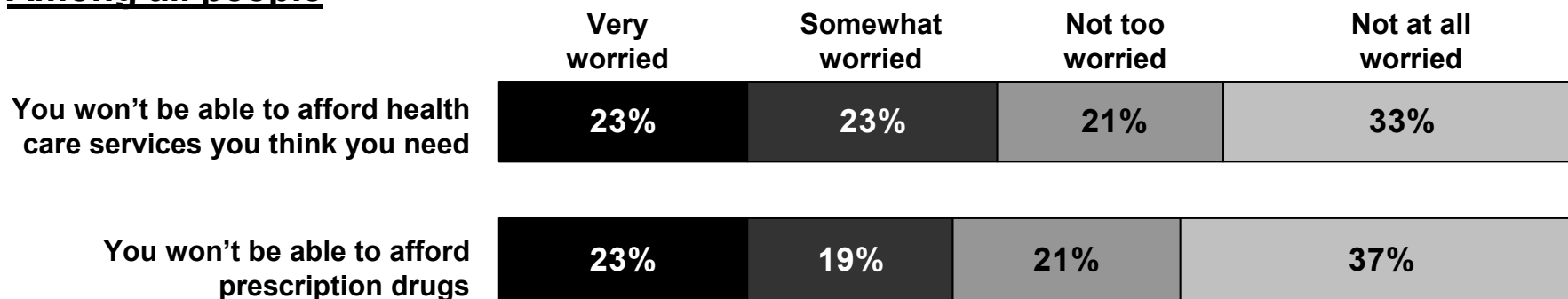
Percent saying their problem...



# Worry About Health Care Cost and Access

How worried are you that ... over the next year?

## Among all people



## Among those with health insurance

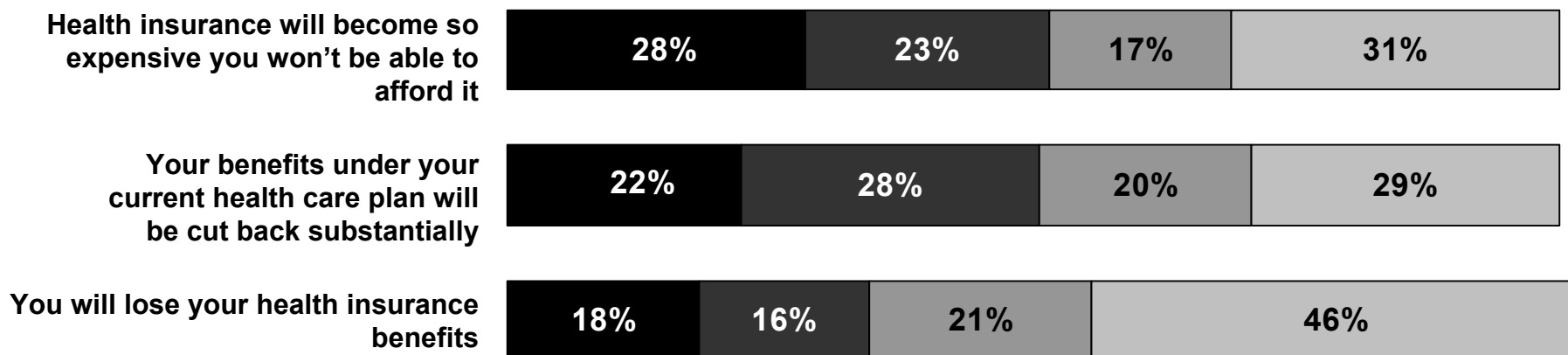
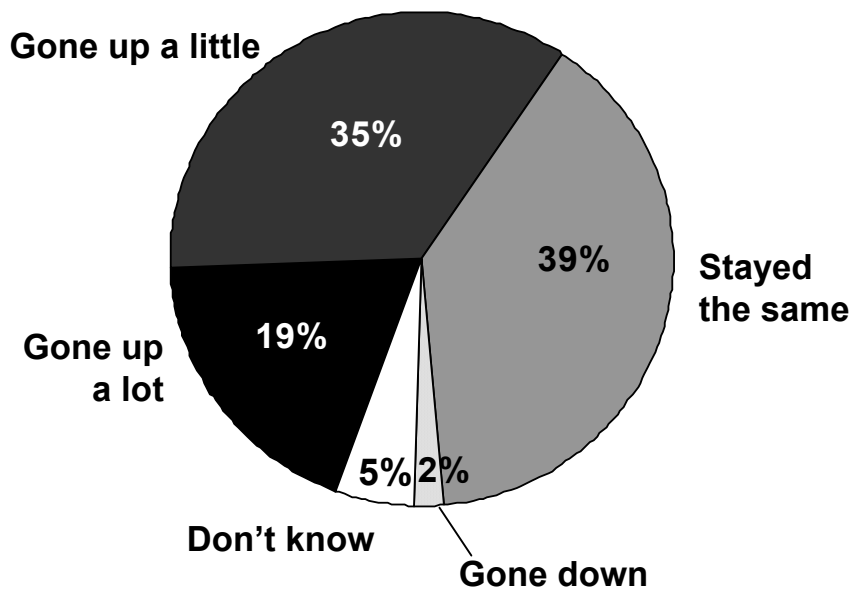


Chart 7

# People with health insurance report moderate increases in their health care costs in the past year

During the past 12 months, has the amount of money you pay directly each month or have deducted from your paycheck for your health insurance premiums...



During the past 12 months, has the amount of money you or your family have spent on health care costs not covered by insurance or government benefits, like co-payments or deductibles...

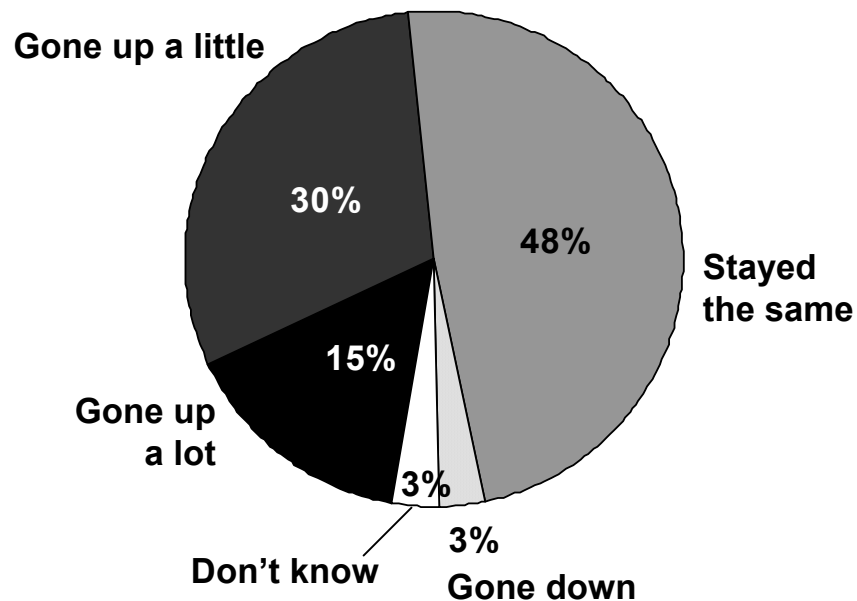
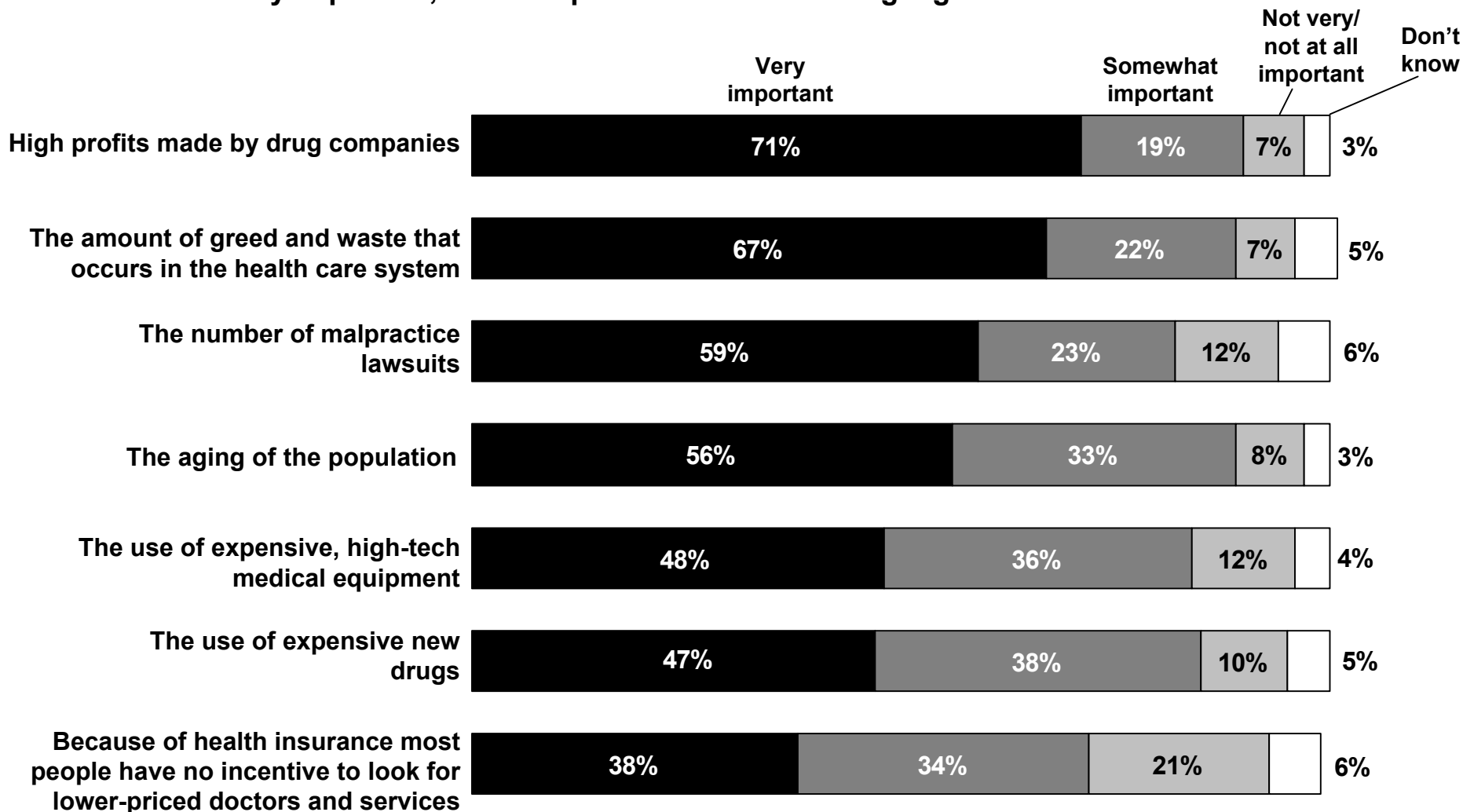




Chart 8

# Why People Think Health Care Costs Are Rising

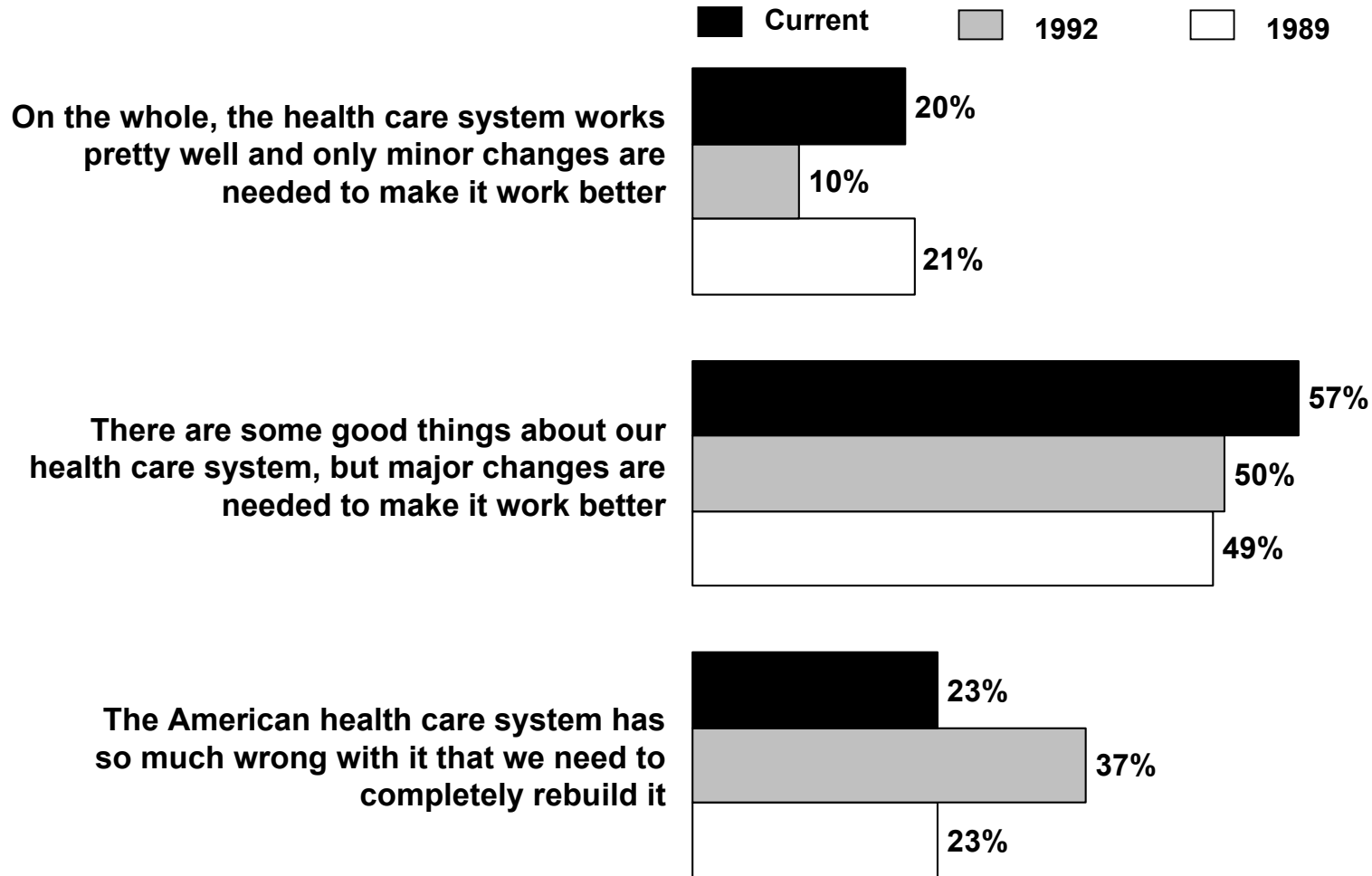
“A number of factors have been suggested as possible reasons for rising health care costs. For each factor, please tell me whether you feel it is very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not important at all in causing higher health care costs.”



Source: NPR/Kaiser Family Foundation/Kennedy School of Government *Health Care Survey*, May 2002 (conducted March 28-May 1, 2002)

# Views About the Health Care System Overall

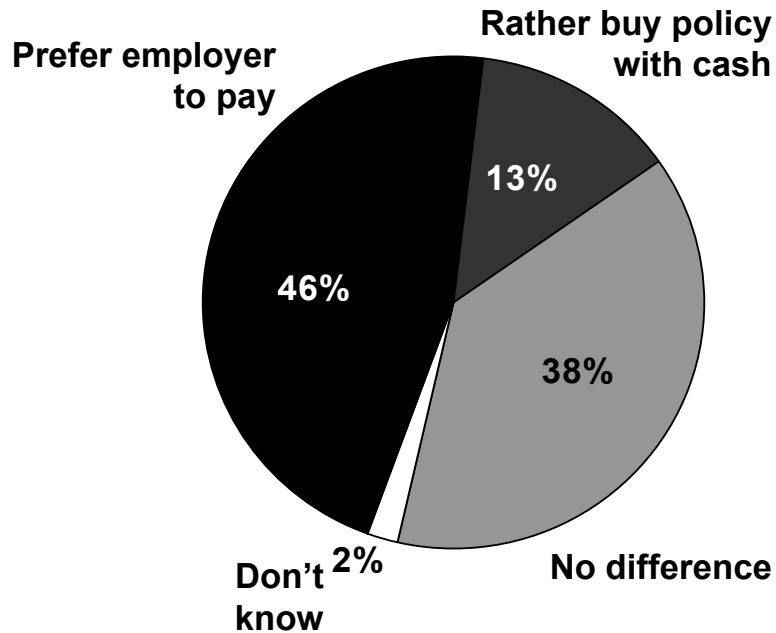
Which of the following statements comes closest to expressing your overall view of the health care system in this country?



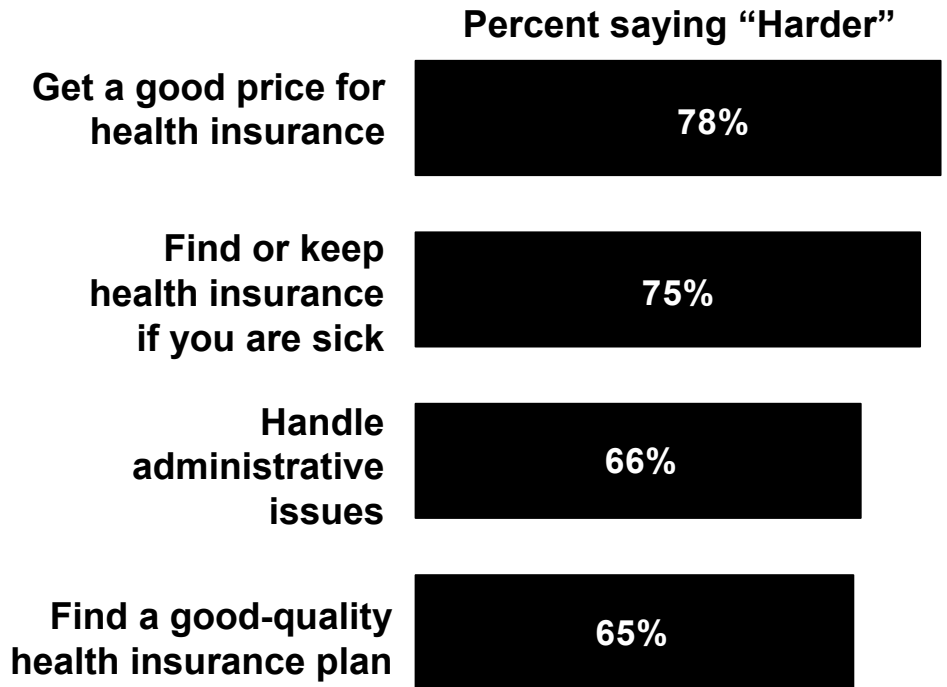
# Views About Employer-Based Insurance

Among those with private insurance through an employer...

Would you prefer to have your employer pay for all or part of your health insurance policy at work, or would you rather buy a health insurance policy yourself, with your employer giving you the cash amount they would have contributed – or doesn't it make much difference to you?

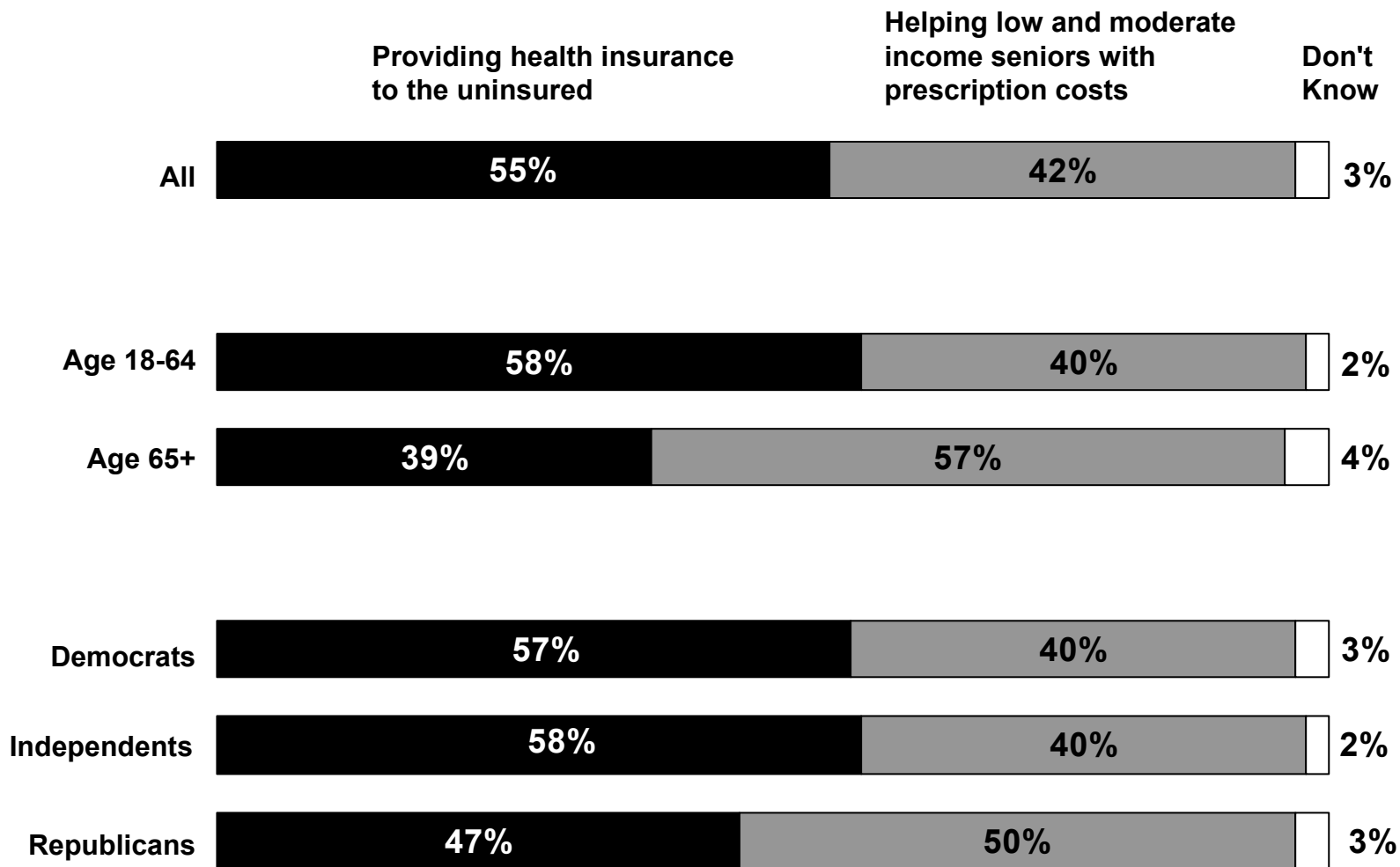


What if your employer gave you the cash amount they would have contributed to your policy, and you had to buy health insurance on your own. Do you think purchasing your own coverage would make it **EASIER** or **HARDER** for you to ... or wouldn't it make much difference?



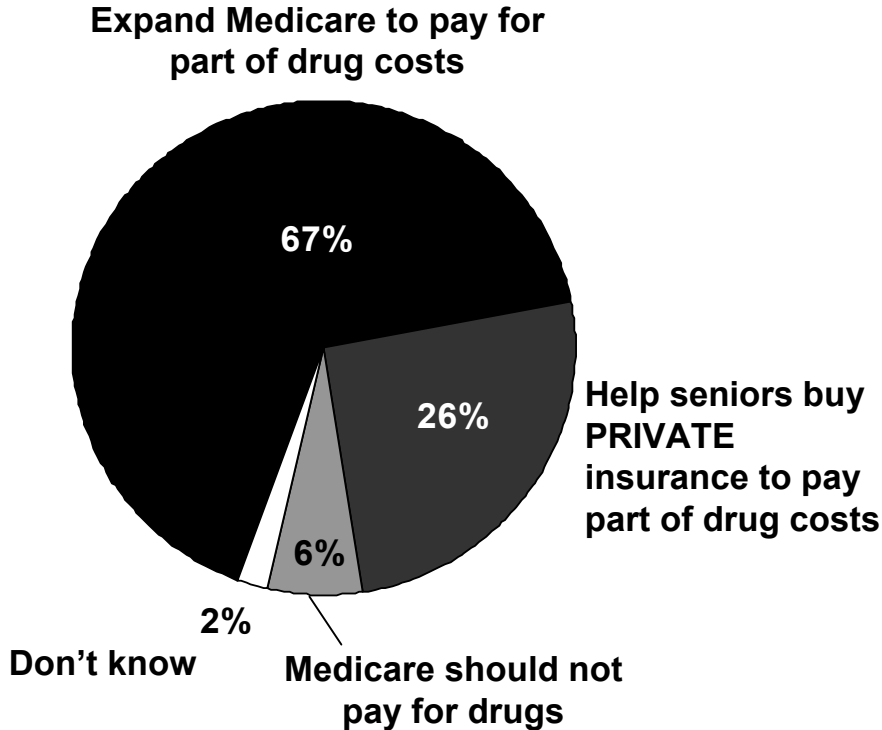
# Mixed Views on Government Health Care Spending Priorities

If the government were able to spend more on health care, which do you think should be a higher priority...

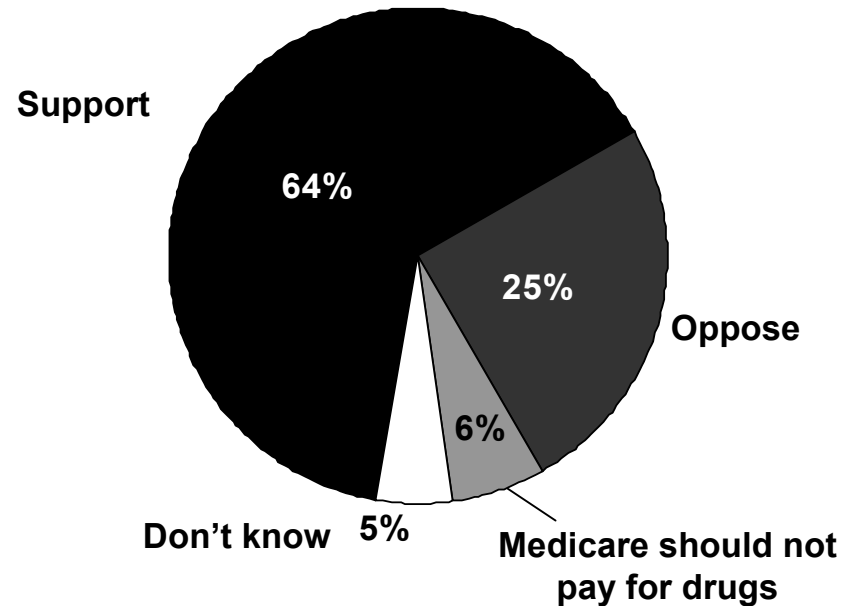


# Support for Helping Seniors with Prescription Drug Costs

As you may know, Medicare does not currently pay for prescription drugs. Do you think the federal government should...?

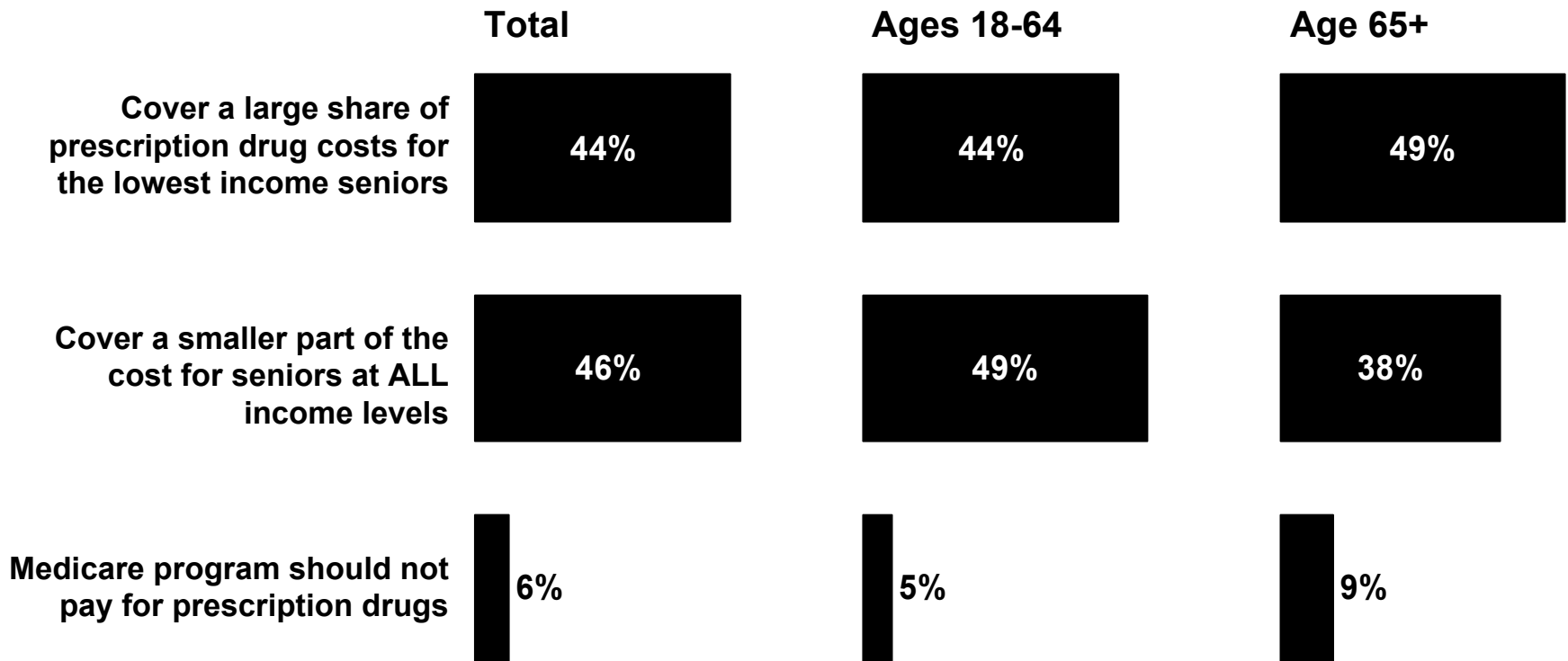


Would you support or oppose rolling back the tax cut that Congress passed last year and using that money to provide a prescription drug benefit under Medicare for seniors?



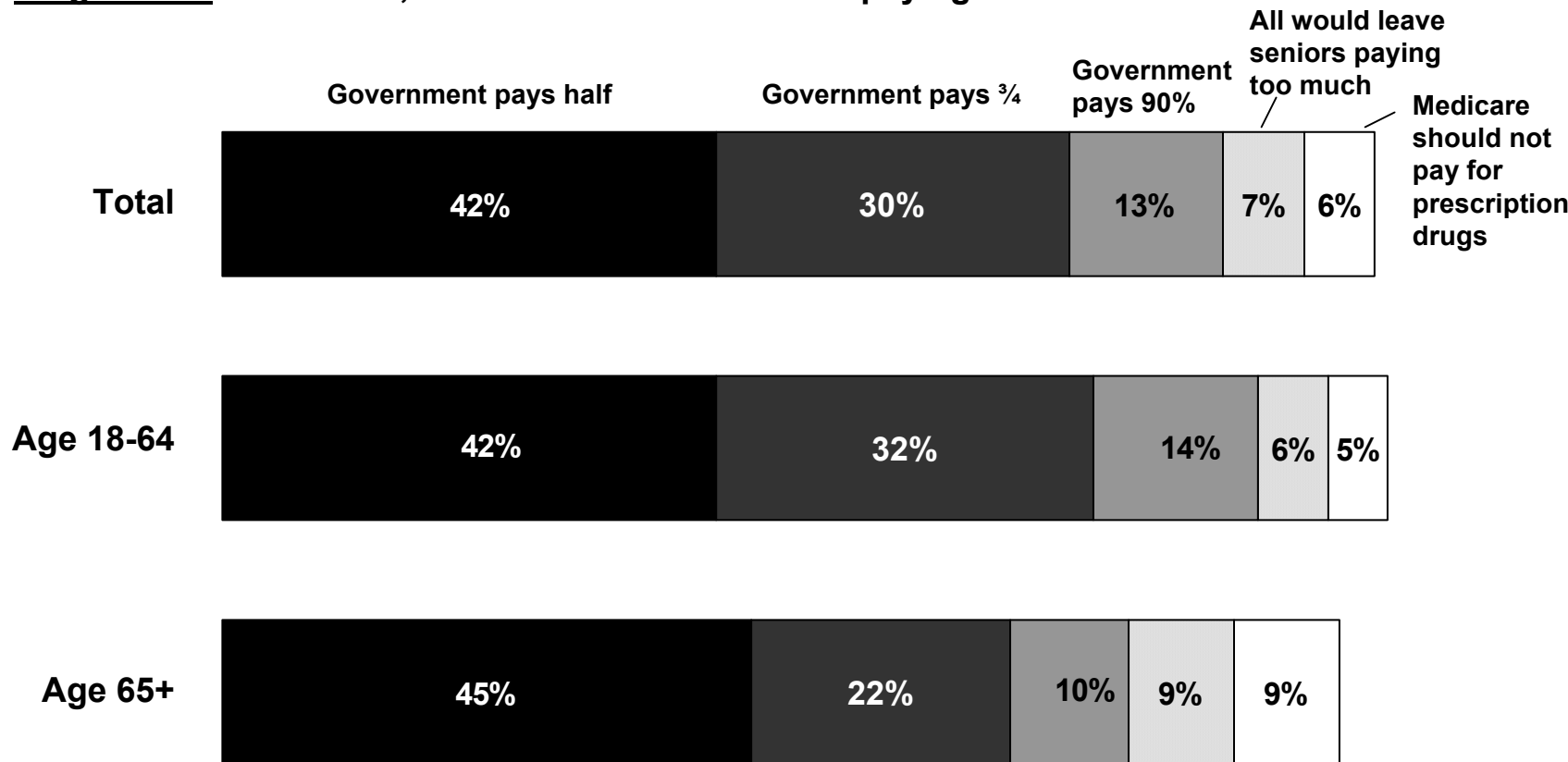
# Disagreement Over Which Seniors to Help First

Keeping in mind that there is a limited amount of money in the federal budget that could be used to help seniors pay for prescription drugs, should the government pass a law to cover a large share of prescription drug costs for the lowest- income seniors or should it pass a law that would pay a smaller part of the cost for seniors at ALL income levels?



# What Constitutes a Good Prescription Drug Benefit for Seniors?

“The average senior citizen takes prescription drugs that cost about \$2,000 per year. The president and Congress are considering giving seniors some help with these bills. I am going to read you a list of options for each. Please tell me if you would consider it a good prescription drug benefit for seniors, or if it would leave seniors paying too much of the bill.”



\* Don't know not shown

# Reasonable Cost for a Medicare Drug Benefit

Suppose Congress and the president decided on a prescription drug plan for seniors in which the government pays half of the cost of each prescription. What is the most seniors could reasonably be asked to pay per month in premiums for this new Medicare benefit? This is IN ADDITION to their current Medicare premiums and half the cost of each prescription.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>18-64</i>	<i>65+</i>
<b>Medicare should not pay for drugs</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>\$50-\$100 (NET)</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>28%</b>
\$100	7	7	5
\$75	6	6	3
\$50	21	22	20
<b>\$0-\$30 (NET)</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>55%</b>
\$30	11	12	10
\$20	13	13	15
\$10	17	18	14
None	12	12	16
<b>Don't Know/Refused</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>8%</b>



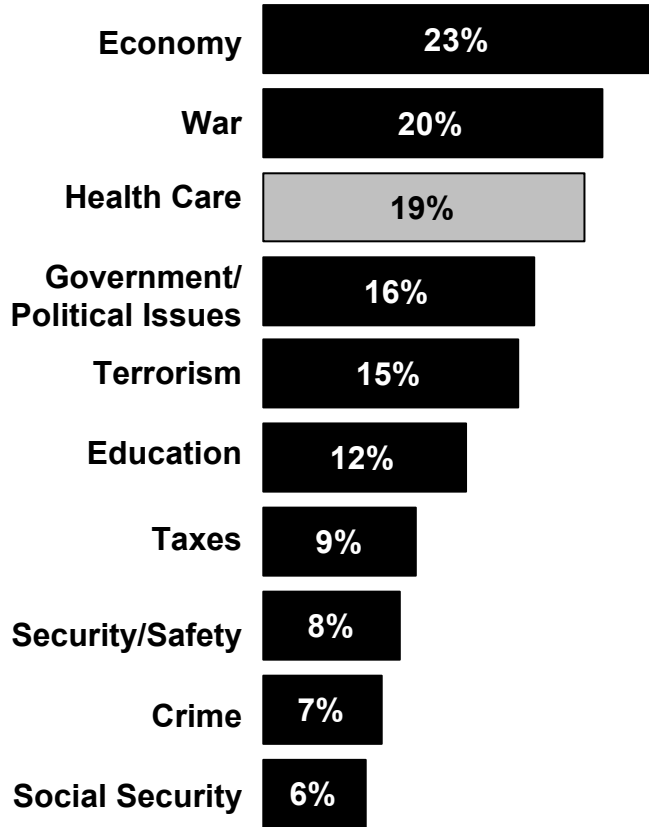
# Willingness to Pay for a Medicare Drug Benefit

If you are now 65 years of age or older, or when you reach 65, which of the following amounts is the MOST you would be willing to pay per month in premiums for a drug plan that pays half the cost of each prescription? This would be IN ADDITION to your Medicare premiums and half the cost of each prescription.

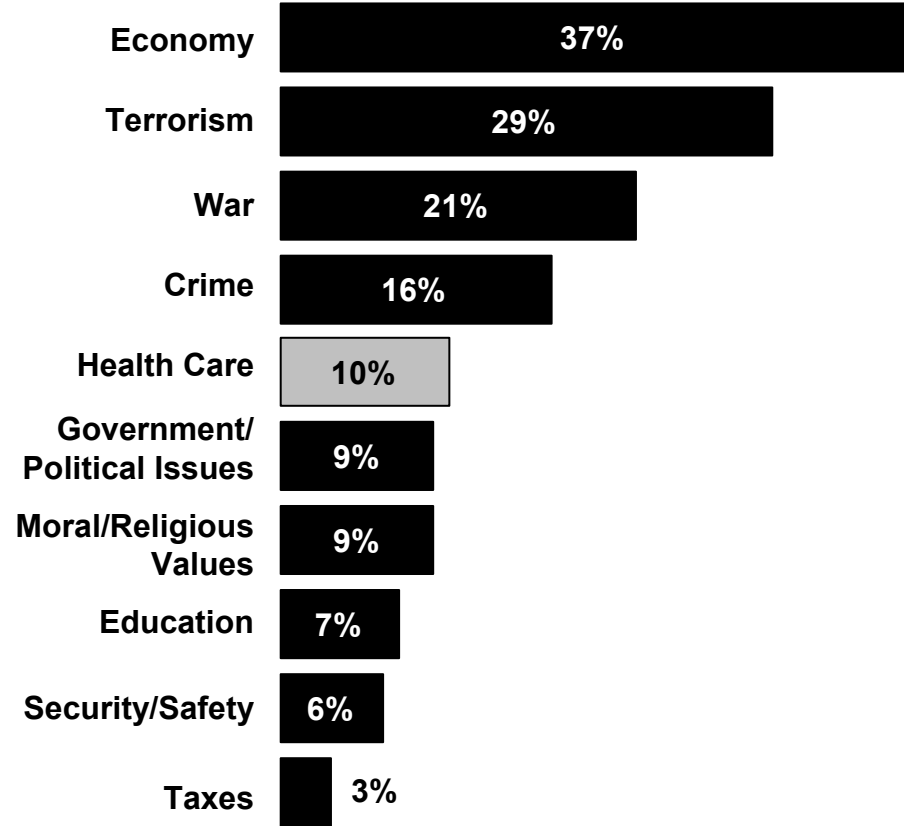
	<i>Total</i>	<i>18-64</i>	<i>65+</i>
<b>\$50-\$100 (NET)</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>26%</b>
\$100	12	12	10
\$75	7	7	6
\$50	23	25	10
<b>\$0-\$30 (NET)</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>69%</b>
\$30	11	12	10
\$20	11	11	14
\$10	14	14	15
None	16	13	30
<b>Don't Know/Refused</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>6%</b>

# Most Important Problem/Issue

What do you think are the two most important issues for the government to address?



What do you think are the two most important problems facing the country today?

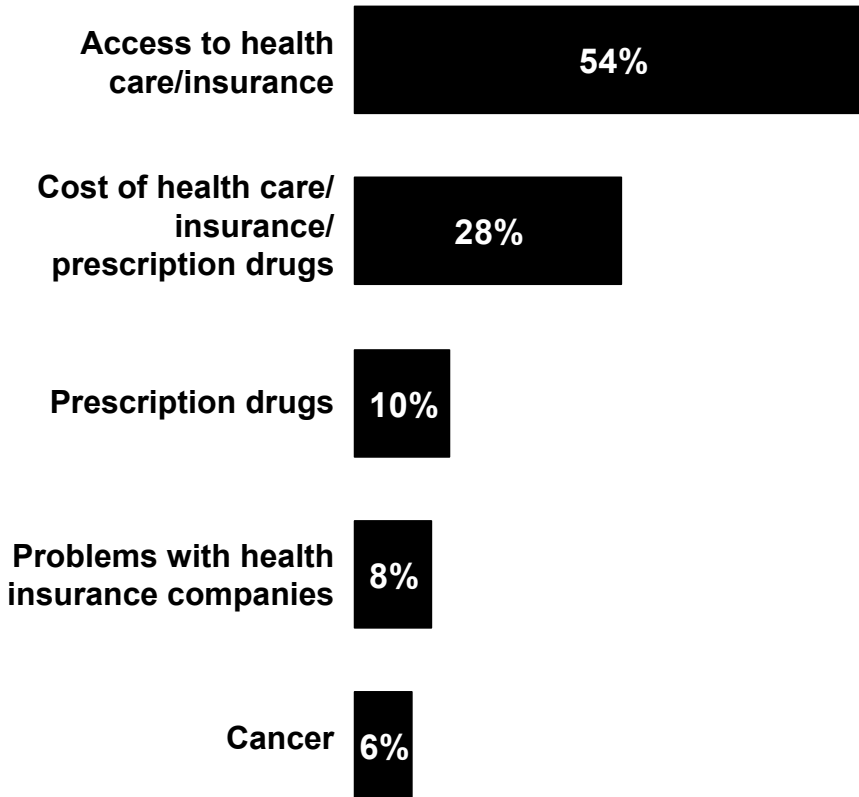


Note: open-ended responses collected

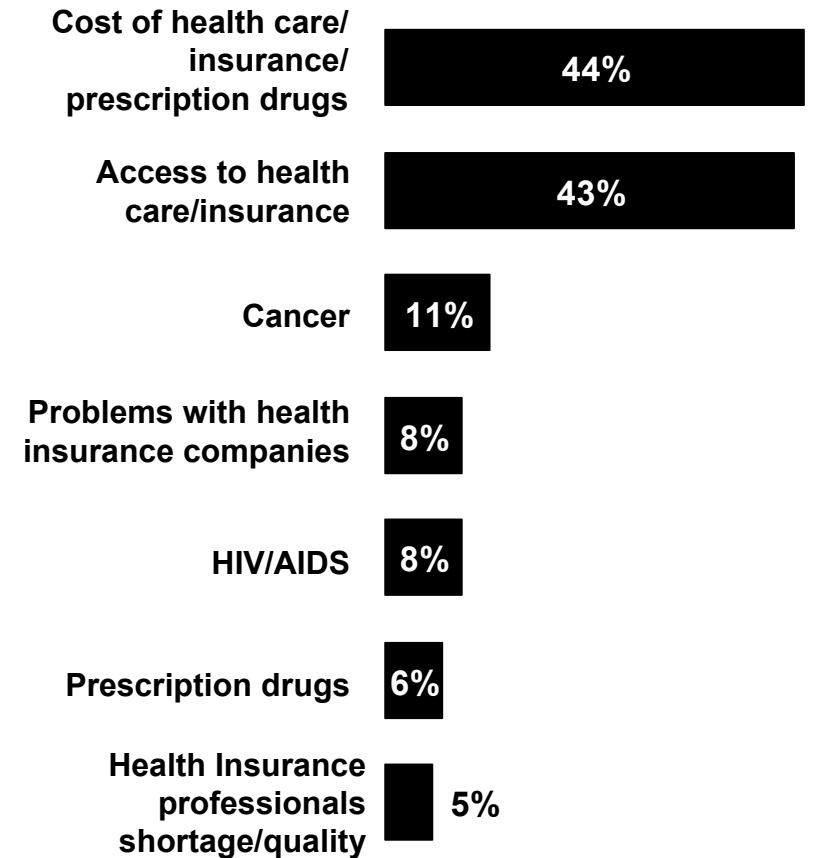
# Most Important Health Care Problem/Issue

Now thinking specifically about health care...

What are the two most important health care issues for the government to address?



What are the two most important health care problems facing the country today?

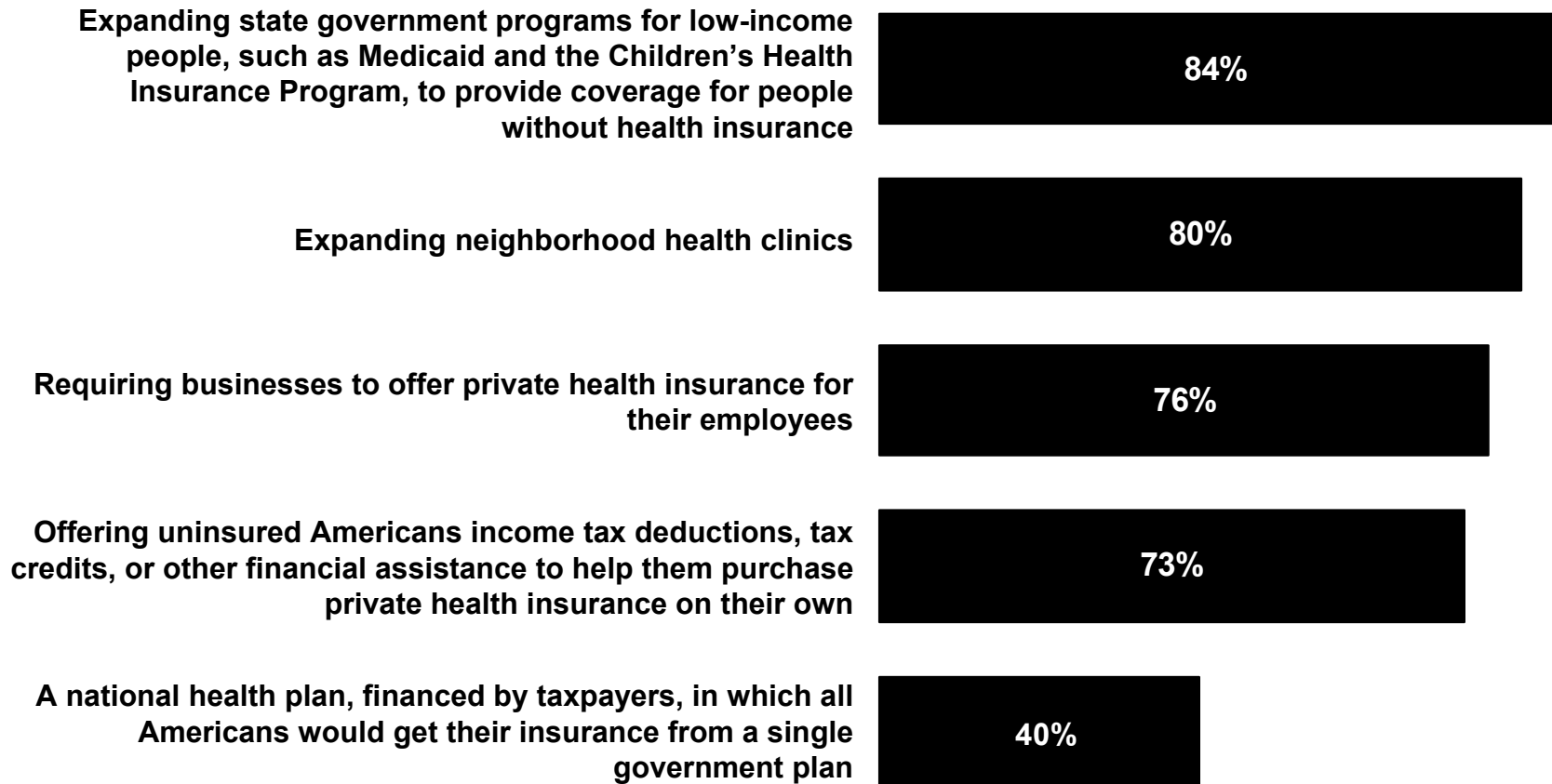


Note: open-ended responses collected

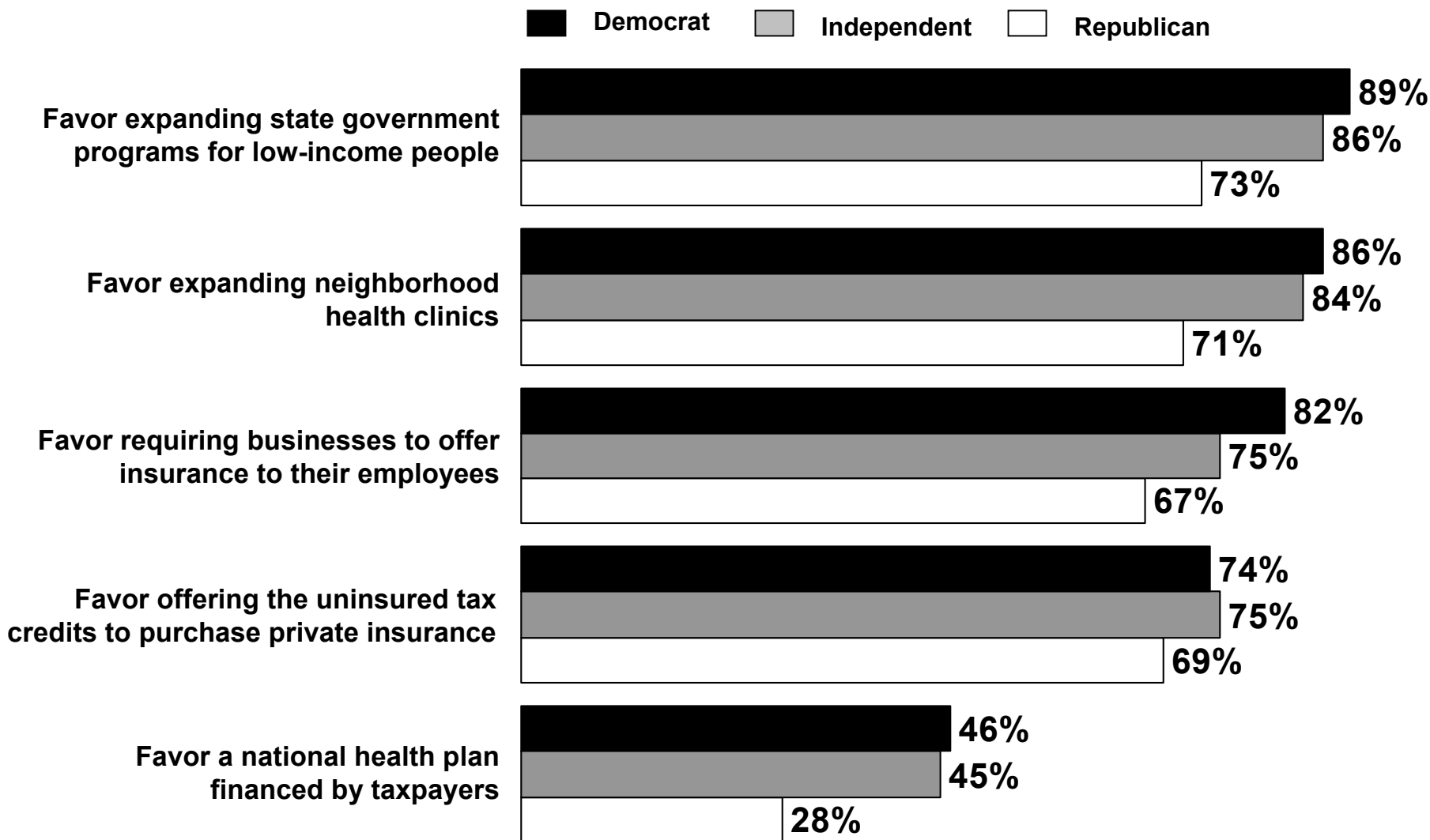
# Options for Expanding Access to Health Care

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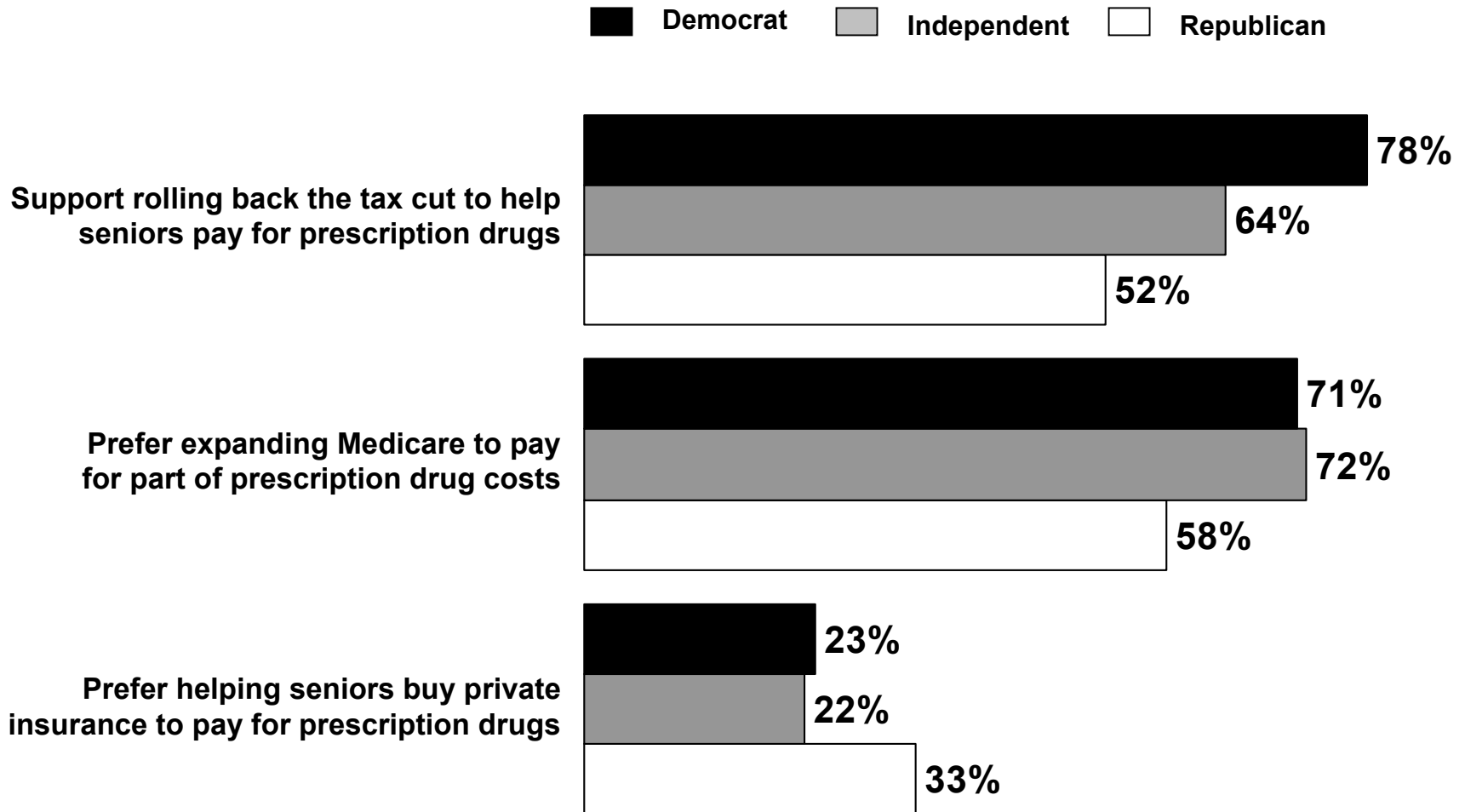
Percent who favor different ways to guarantee health care for more Americans...



# Independents Closer to Democrats than Republicans on Many Health Care Issues – Expanding Access



# Independents Closer to Democrats than Republicans on Many Health Care Issues – Prescription Drugs





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