

Topline

Kaiser Health Tracking Poll: March 2012

Methodology

This *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* was designed and analyzed by public opinion researchers at the Kaiser Family Foundation led by Mollyann Brodie, Ph.D., including Liz Hamel, Claudia Deane, Bianca DiJulio, Sarah Cho, and Theresa Boston. The survey was conducted February 29 – March 5, 2012, among a nationally representative random digit dial telephone sample of 1,208 adults ages 18 and older, living in the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii (note: persons without a telephone could not be included in the random selection process). Computer-assisted telephone interviews conducted by landline (704) and cell phone (504, including 279 who had no landline telephone) were carried out in English and Spanish by Braun Research, Inc. under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI). Both the landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International, LLC. For the landline sample, respondents were selected by asking for the youngest adult male or female currently at home based on a random rotation. If no one of that gender was available, interviewers asked to speak with the youngest adult of the opposite gender. For the cell phone sample, interviews were conducted with the person who answered the phone.

The combined landline and cell phone sample was weighted to balance the sample demographics to match estimates for the national population data from the Census Bureau's 2011 Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) on sex, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, nativity (for Hispanics only), and region along with data from the 2000 Census on population density. The sample was also weighted to match current patterns of telephone use using data from the January-June 2011 National Health Interview Survey. The weight takes into account the fact that respondents with both a landline and cell phone have a higher probability of selection in the combined sample and also adjusts for the household size for the landline sample. All statistical tests of significance account for the effect of weighting. Weighted and unweighted values for key demographic variables are shown in the table below.

Sample Demographics – Main Survey			
		Unweighted	Weighted
<u>Gender</u>			
	Male	50.2%	49.4%
	Female	49.8%	50.6%
<u>Age</u>			
	18-24	8.3%	13.0%
	25-34	11.7%	16.1%
	35-44	12.7%	17.3%
	45-54	20.0%	17.5%
	55-64	20.8%	16.0%
	65+	22.4%	16.5%
<u>Education</u>			
	Less than high school	6.8%	11.7%
	High school graduate	25.6%	33.3%
	Some college	26.2%	24.3%
	College graduate	38.3%	28.2%
<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>			
	White, non-Hispanic	70.2%	66.6%
	Black, non-Hispanic	10.5%	11.4%
	Hispanic, US born	6.0%	6.6%
	Hispanic, non-US born	5.5%	7.2%
	Other	3.7%	4.6%
<u>Party Identification</u>			
	Democrat	29.6%	30.9%
	Independent	35.6%	35.7%
	Republican	24.3%	22.8%
	Other	6.5%	6.4%

The margin of sampling error including the design effect for the full sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For results based on subgroups, the margin of sampling error may be higher. Sample sizes and margin of sampling errors for other subgroups are available by request. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

The response rate calculated based on the American Association of Public Opinion Research's Response Rate 3 formula was 25 percent for the landline sample and 21 percent for the cell phone sample.

Methodology for Omnibus Supplement

Two additional questions (labeled O1 and O2 and listed on pages 20 through 22 of this topline document) were asked on the Princeton Data Source omnibus survey. Different research clients purchase space on the omnibus survey and therefore additional questions covering a wide variety of topics may have preceded or followed the questions shown on this topline. The *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll Omnibus Supplement* was conducted March 1 – March 4, 2012, among a nationally representative random digit dial telephone sample of 1,009 adults ages 18 and older, living in the continental United States (note: persons without a telephone could not be included in the random selection process). Computer-assisted telephone interviews conducted by landline (603) and cell phone (406, including 201 who had no landline telephone) were carried out in English by Princeton Data Source under the direction of PSRAI.

The margin of sampling error including the design effect for the full sample on the omnibus supplement is plus or minus 4 percentage points. For results based on subgroups, the margin of sampling error may be higher. Sample sizes and margin of sampling errors for other subgroups are available by request. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

Full methodological details, including weighted and unweighted values for key demographic variables and response rates are available upon request.

Trends in this document come from surveys listed at the end of the document. Values less than 0.5% are indicated by an asterisk (*). "VOL." indicates that a response was volunteered by respondent, not an explicitly offered choice. Due to rounding, percentages may not add to 100.

1. As you may know, a health reform bill was signed into law in 2010. Given what you know about the health reform law, do you have a generally (favorable) or generally (unfavorable) opinion of it? [GET ANSWER THEN ASK: Is that a very (favorable/unfavorable) or somewhat (favorable/unfavorable) opinion?] [ROTATE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES]

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know/Refused
03/12	18	23	11	29	19
02/12	17	25	16	27	15
01/12	18	19	14	30	19
12/11 ¹	19	22	15	28	17
11/11	17	20	15	29	19
10/11	12	22	20	31	15
09/11	18	23	14	29	16
08/11	16	23	17	27	17
07/11	20	22	12	31	15
06/11	15	27	16	30	12
05/11	19	23	15	29	14
04/11	20	21	14	27	18
03/11	21	21	15	31	13
02/11	16	27	19	29	8
01/11	19	22	16	34	9
12/10	22	20	14	27	18
11/10	19	23	12	28	18
10/10	18	24	15	29	15
09/10	19	30	15	25	11
08/10	19	24	13	32	12
07/10	21	29	10	25	14
06/10	20	28	16	25	10
05/10	14	27	12	32	14
04/10 ²	23	23	10	30	14

2. Would you say your unfavorable view is more about (what you know about the health reform law), or more about (your general feelings about the direction of the country and what's going on in Washington right now)? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENS)

Based on those who have an unfavorable view of the health reform law

	03/12	11/11
More about what you know about the health reform law	27	25
More about your general feelings about the direction of the country and what's going on in Washington right now	38	44
Both equally (VOL.)	32	28
Don't know/Refused	2	3
	(n=529)	(n=545)

Summary Q1 and Q2 based on total

	03/12	11/11
Have unfavorable view of health reform law	40	44
More about what you know about the health reform law	11	11
More about your general feelings about the direction of the country and what's going on in Washington right now	15	19
Both equally (VOL.)	13	12
Don't know/Refused	1	1
Have favorable view of health reform law	41	37
Don't know/Refused	19	19

¹ May 2010 through December 2011 trend wording was "As you may know, a health reform bill was signed into law early last year..."

² April 2010 trend wording was "[President Obama did sign a health reform bill into law last month...] Given what you know about the new health reform law, do you have a generally (favorable) or generally (unfavorable) opinion of it? (Is that a very favorable/unfavorable or somewhat favorable/unfavorable opinion?)"

3. Do you think (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE) will be (better off) or (worse off) under the health reform law, or don't you think it will make much difference? (ROTATE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES ACROSS INTERVIEWS, BUT NOT WITHIN SAME INTERVIEW) [READ IF NECESSARY: "Will (INSERT ITEM) be (better off) or (worse off) under the health reform law, or don't you think it will make much difference?"]

	Better off	Worse off	Not much difference	(VOL.) Depends	Don't know/ Refused
a. You and your family					
03/12	26	33	34	--	7
02/12	27	25	41	--	7
01/12	26	33	35	--	6
12/11	26	31	39	--	5
11/11	23	31	41	--	5
10/11	18	31	44	--	6
09/11	27	32	34	--	7
08/11	24	33	37	--	6
07/11	27	29	39	--	5
06/11	24	34	35	--	7
05/11	28	28	38	--	6
04/11	27	28	37	--	8
03/11	26	30	39	--	5
02/11	28	31	38	--	3
01/11	20	32	44	--	4
12/10	32	33	28	--	7
11/10	25	31	34	--	9
10/10	31	29	32	--	7
09/10	32	28	33	--	7
08/10	29	30	36	--	5
07/10	32	29	33	--	6
06/10	28	28	39	--	5
05/10	29	30	32	--	9
04/10	31	32	30	--	8
03/10 ³	35	32	28	2	3
02/10	34	32	26	3	5
01/10	32	33	29	3	4
12/09	35	27	32	3	3
11/09	42	24	27	3	4
10/09	41	27	28	2	3
09/09	42	23	28	4	3
08/09	36	31	27	2	4
07/09	39	21	32	4	3
06/09	39	16	36	3	5
04/09	43	14	36	4	4
02/09	38	11	43	4	3

Q3 continued on next page

³ February 2009 through March 2010 trend wording was "Do you think (INSERT) would be (better off) or (worse off) if the president and Congress passed health care reform, or don't you think it would make much difference?"

Q3 continued

		Better off	Worse off	Not much difference	(VOL.) Depends	Don't know/ Refused
b.	The country as a whole					
	03/12	37	38	18	--	7
	02/12	39	32	22	--	7
	01/12	37	36	19	--	8
	12/11	37	37	19	--	7
	11/11	35	36	22	--	7
	10/11	28	36	29	--	7
	09/11	38	36	18	--	8
	08/11	33	37	21	--	9
	07/11	39	35	20	--	6
	06/11	35	39	20	--	6
	05/11	37	38	19	--	6
	04/11	39	35	18	--	9
	03/11	38	35	19	--	7
	02/11	37	39	19	--	5
	01/11	34	38	22	--	5
	12/10	40	37	15	--	8
	11/10	38	36	16	--	10
	10/10	39	34	18	--	9
	09/10	42	34	15	--	9
	08/10	39	37	18	--	6
	07/10	43	35	15	--	7
	06/10	42	32	19	--	6
	05/10	43	35	13	--	9
	04/10	45	35	11	--	9
	03/10	45	34	14	3	4
	02/10	45	34	12	4	5
	01/10	42	37	12	3	5
	12/09	45	31	17	4	3
	11/09	54	27	11	3	5
	10/09	53	28	12	2	4
	09/09	53	26	14	4	4
	08/09	45	34	14	3	4
	07/09	51	23	16	4	6
	06/09	57	16	19	3	5
	04/09	56	15	21	3	5
	02/09	59	12	19	5	5
c.	The uninsured					
	03/12	51	24	16	--	9
	01/12	53	25	14	--	8
	11/11	51	23	17	--	9
	08/11	49	20	22	--	9
	05/11	55	25	15	--	5
	09/10	57	20	15	--	8
	04/10	67	15	10	--	8
<i>Item d based on half sample A (n=607)</i>						
d.	People who get health insurance through an employer					
	03/12	28	32	29	--	11
	08/11 ⁴	24	35	30	--	11

Q3 continued on next page

⁴ Trend wording was "People who currently get health insurance through an employer."

Q3 continued

		Better off	Worse off	Not much difference	(VOL.) Depends	Don't know/ Refused
<i>Item e based on half sample B (n=601)</i>						
e.	People with pre-existing health conditions					
	03/12	48	26	15	--	12
	11/11	48	25	16	--	11
	09/11	52	21	16	--	11
<i>Item f based on half sample B (n=601)</i>						
f.	Middle class Americans					
	03/12	30	42	19	--	9
	11/11	31	37	25	--	7
	05/11	31	38	25	--	5
	02/11	32	40	24	--	5
	01/11	27	42	27	--	4
	09/10	38	38	18	--	7
	04/10	34	36	21	--	8
<i>Item g based on half sample A (n=607)</i>						
g.	Lower income Americans					
	03/12	49	28	17	--	6
	11/11	49	28	16	--	7
	05/11	52	29	14	--	5
	02/11	51	29	18	--	3
	01/11	48	27	21	--	4
	09/10	60	21	14	--	5
	04/10	64	19	9	--	8

4. What would you like to see Congress do when it comes to the health care law? They should expand the law, they should keep the law as is, they should repeal the law and replace it with a Republican-sponsored alternative, (or) they should repeal the law and not replace it? (READ AND ROTATE 1-4, 4-1. ENTER ONE ONLY)

	Expand law	Keep law as is	Repeal and replace with Republican alternative	Repeal and NOT replace	Don't know/ Refused
03/12	28	19	18	23	12
02/12	35	19	18	19	9
01/12	31	19	18	22	11
12/11	30	20	16	22	11
11/11	32	18	15	24	11
09/11	33	19	16	21	12
07/11	33	20	16	21	10
06/11	31	20	19	19	12
05/11	30	21	19	19	10
04/11	33	19	15	20	14
03/11	30	21	18	21	10
02/11	30	20	19	20	10
01/11	28	19	23	20	10

5. As far as you know, how much of the health reform law has been put into place thus far: (READ LIST. ROTATE 1-4, 4-1)

	03/12	02/11
None	18	17
Some provisions	64	62
Most provisions	4	7
All of its provisions	2	3
Don't know/Refused	12	11

6. Do you feel you have enough information about the health reform law to understand how it will impact you personally, or not?

	03/12	11/11	03/11	04/10
Yes, have enough information	39	44	47	43
No, do not have enough information	59	55	52	56
Don't know/Refused	2	1	1	2

7. Please tell me if each of the following does or does not describe your own feelings about the health reform law. The first is (INSERT & RANDOMIZE). Does this describe your own feelings about the health reform law, or not?

		Describes	Does not describe	Don't know/Refused
a.	Confused			
	03/12	47	51	2
	07/11	46	52	2
	03/11	53	47	*
	02/11	50	49	1
	12/10	43	55	2
	11/10	52	46	2
	10/10	47	50	4
	09/10	53	45	2
	08/10	45	55	1
	07/10	43	55	2
	06/10	42	57	1
	05/10	44	54	2
	04/10	55	45	1
	12/09 ⁵	48	52	*
	10/09	49	50	1
	09/09	48	51	1
	08/09	46	53	2
b.	Angry			
	03/12	31	67	3
	07/11	34	65	2
	03/11	34	66	*
	02/11	34	65	1
	12/10	30	68	2
	11/10	32	67	1
	10/10	28	68	4
	09/10	32	66	2
	08/10	31	67	1
	07/10	28	70	2
	06/10	31	67	2
	05/10	30	69	2
	04/10	30	69	1
	12/09	35	64	1
	10/09	40	59	1
	09/09	31	67	1
c.	Enthusiastic			
	03/12	25	71	4
	07/11	28	70	2
	03/11	27	72	1
	02/11	31	67	2
	12/10	33	64	3
	11/10	35	62	4
	10/10	30	66	3
	09/10	30	67	3
	08/10	30	69	1

⁵ August through December 2009 trend wording was "Please tell me if each of the following does or does not describe your own feelings about the health care reform plans being discussed in Washington."

ROTATE ORDER OF 8/8b WITH 9/9b

8. So far, would you say you and your family have personally benefited from the health reform law, or not?

	03/12	11/11	07/11	05/11	03/11	02/11	12/10
Yes, have benefited	14	11	15	14	13	14	15
No, have not benefited	83	85	83	82	84	84	81
Don't know/Refused	3	4	2	4	3	3	4

8b. In what ways would you say you have benefited from the health reform law? (OPEN-END)

Based on those who say they have benefited from the health reform law

	03/12	11/11	07/11	05/11	03/11	02/11	12/10
Access to health care/expansion of health insurance/expansion of benefits	39	38	39	42	39	34	36
Extension of dependent coverage	18	25	13	15	14	21	14
Lower health care costs	15	12	16	16	24	20	19
Health reform will help - general	6	3	5	5	3	5	7
Help dealing with pre-existing conditions	6	9	7	3	5	6	5
Help for seniors/Medicare/Closing the doughnut hole	5	6	4	4	6	7	-
Other insurance reforms	4	2	2	2	4	5	6
My insurance is good/no changes	3	6	2	2	4	-	-
Other	7	6	6	9	3	7	6
Don't know/Refused	19	8	13	16	11	15	17
	(n=171)	(n=141)	(n=157)	(n=151)	(n=144)	(n=155)	(n=157)

Percentages will add to more than 100 due to multiple responses.

9. So far, would you say you and your family have been negatively affected by the health reform law, or not?

	03/12	11/11	07/11	05/11	03/11	02/11	12/10
Yes, negatively affected	21	18	18	18	20	17	20
No, not negatively affected	76	78	78	78	77	82	76
Don't know/Refused	4	4	4	4	3	2	4

9b. In what ways would you say you have been negatively affected by the health reform law? (OPEN-END)

Based on those who say they have been negatively affected by health reform law

	03/12	11/11	07/11	05/11	03/11	02/11	12/10
Cost (NET)	53	60	52	55	58	48	45
The cost of my own health care has increased/ can't afford cost of insurance/higher costs	46	50	39	40	46	32	29
Cost concerns – taxes	5	3	1	9	1	7	7
Cost concerns – general	4	8	12	7	12	10	11
Cut to benefits/less options/choices (general)	17	15	18	19	14	16	15
Don't have/Unable to get/Dropped by insurance	6	10	11	7	5	11	8
Bad for providers/Providers have quit/Lost my doctor	6	4	2	4	3	1	1
Too much government intrusion/government getting too big	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bad for businesses/jobs	5	5	3	2	5	2	7
Don't want to pay for freeloaders/non-citizens	4	-	1	2	3	3	-
Taking away my religious freedom/Against my morals	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Haven't seen any changes yet	4	1	2	3	4	-	-
Opposed to individual mandate	3	3	2	2	2	3	-
Declining quality of care	3	2	5	4	3	2	3
Harm to Medicare/seniors	1	3	4	6	5	7	3
Angry at process/Congress	1	3	2	5	1	5	-
Employers will drop/have dropped health insurance	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Other	14	11	13	11	13	14	14
Don't know/Refused	12	6	10	7	4	10	18
	(n=250)	(n=226)	(n=236)	(n=219)	(n=240)	(n=205)	(n=255)

Percentages will add to more than 100 due to multiple responses.

10. As of today, do you think the health care law HAS or HAS NOT (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE)? [INTERVIEWER NOTE: READ FULL STEM FIRST 2 TIMES, THEN AS NECESSARY]

	Yes, has done this	No, has not done this	Don't know/Refused
a. Allowed many young adults under age 26 to obtain health insurance coverage	47	33	19
b. Lowered prescription drug costs for seniors	26	50	24
c. Eliminated costs for preventive services such as blood pressure screenings for people with health insurance	27	51	22
d. Increased the federal budget deficit	54	32	15
e. Significantly increased the price of health insurance	49	38	12
f. Caused many employers to drop health insurance coverage for their employees	44	40	16

11. Next, I'm going to read you several elements of the health reform law. As I read each one, please tell me whether you feel very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable about it. First, (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS). (READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN AS NECESSARY: Would you say you feel very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or very unfavorable about that?)

Items a-f based on half sample A (n=607)

		Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know/Refused
a. The law will require nearly all Americans to have health insurance by 2014 or else pay a fine	03/12	15	17	12	54	2
	11/11	16	19	20	43	2
b. The law will expand the existing Medicaid program to cover more low-income, uninsured adults	03/12	36	34	12	15	3
	11/11 ⁶	34	35	13	13	6
c. The law will prohibit insurance companies from denying coverage because of a person's medical history	03/12	45	24	11	17	3
	11/11 ⁷	47	20	12	19	3
d. The law will increase the Medicare payroll tax on earnings for upper income Americans	03/12	26	27	17	24	6
	11/11	30	29	17	20	4
e. The law allows people to appeal to an independent reviewer if they disagree with their health plan's decision	03/12	37	34	12	12	5
	11/11 ⁸	37	37	13	9	5
f. The law provides tax credits to small businesses that offer health insurance to their employees	03/12	44	36	8	8	4
	11/11 ⁹	45	35	9	7	4

Q11 continued on next page

⁶ Trend wording was "The law will expand the existing Medicaid program to cover low-income, uninsured adults regardless of whether they have children."

⁷ Trend wording was "The law will prohibit insurance companies from denying coverage because of a person's medical history or health condition."

⁸ Trend wording was "The law allows consumers to appeal to an independent reviewer if they disagree with their health plan's decision about what services it will pay for."

⁹ Trend wording was "The law provides tax credits to small businesses that offer coverage to their employees."

Q11 continued

Items g-l based on half sample B (n=601)

		Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know/ Refused
g. The law will require employers with 50 or more employees to pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance	03/12	29	25	15	29	2
	11/11 ¹⁰	35	28	13	22	2
h. The law will provide financial help to low and moderate income Americans who don't get insurance through their jobs to help them purchase coverage	03/12	43	28	10	15	4
	11/11	44	31	11	12	2
i. The law will require insurance plans to offer a minimum package of health insurance benefits, to be defined by the government	03/12	23	28	15	31	3
	11/11 ¹¹	24	29	15	27	5
j. The law eliminates out-of-pocket costs for many preventive services, such as blood pressure or cholesterol screenings	03/12	42	27	15	13	3
	11/11 ¹²	33	31	19	12	6
k. The law requires insurance companies that spend too little money on health care services and too much on administrative costs and profits to give their customers a rebate	03/12	32	25	16	19	7
	11/11	34	26	15	19	6
l. The law requires health plans to provide consumers with easy-to-understand information about benefits and coverage	03/12	50	29	7	11	3
	11/11	60	24	6	8	2

READ: On another topic...

12. I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one--a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little? What about (INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE)? [READ AS NECESSARY: How much confidence do you have in (ITEM)? A great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little?]

	A great deal	Quite a lot	Some	Very little	(VOL.) None	Don't know/ Refused
a. The U.S. Supreme Court	10	13	47	26	3	1
b. Congress	2	4	35	49	8	1
c. The presidency	18	12	28	34	7	1

¹⁰ Trend wording was "The law will require employers with 50 or more employees to pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance to their workers."

¹¹ Trend wording was "The law will require insurance plans to offer a minimum package of health insurance benefits, to be defined by the federal government."

¹² Trend wording was "The law eliminates co-pays and deductibles that people previously had to pay for many preventive services."

READ: Next, I'd like to ask you some questions about the U.S. Supreme Court.

13. In general, do you think the current Supreme Court is (too liberal), (too conservative), or just about right? [ROTATE WORDING IN PARENS]

	03/12
Too liberal	26
Too conservative	26
Just about right	38
Don't know/Refused	10

14. How closely have you been following news about the case before the Supreme Court challenging parts of the health care law? Very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all?

	03/12
Very closely	9
Fairly closely	28
Not too closely	38
Not at all	25
Don't know/Refused	1

15. How much impact do you think the Supreme Court's decision on the case challenging parts of the health care law will have on (INSERT FIRST ITEM, RANDOMIZE)? A lot of impact, some impact, not much impact, or no impact at all? READ FOR 2nd and 3rd items: And how much impact do you think the Supreme Court's decision will have on (INSERT NEXT ITEM, RANDOMIZE)? [READ IF NECESSARY: A lot of impact, some impact, not much impact, or no impact at all?]

	A lot of impact	Some impact	Not much impact	No impact	Don't know/Refused
a. The future of the U.S. health care system	49	35	7	3	5
b. The country as a whole	50	38	7	2	3
c. You and your family	28	36	18	13	6

16. When the Supreme Court rules on the case challenging parts of the health care law, how big of a role do you think each of the following WILL play in their decision? What about (INSERT FIRST ITEM, RANDOMIZE)? Will this play a major role, a minor role, or no role at all in the justices' decision on this case? READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS: What about (INSERT NEXT ITEM, RANDOMIZE)? [READ AS NECESSARY: Will this play a major role, a minor role, or no role at all in the Supreme Court justices' decision on the health care law?]

Based on half sample A (n=607)

	Major role	Minor role	No role	Don't know/Refused
a. National politics	50	35	10	5
b. Whether the justices' themselves hold liberal or conservative views	51	29	12	7
c. The justices' past personal experiences	38	39	16	7
d. The justices' analysis and interpretation of the law	54	31	8	6
e. Whether a justice was appointed by a Republican or Democratic president	44	31	18	6
f. The views of average Americans	27	40	30	2

17. Which of these do you think will play the MOST important role in the justices' decision on this case? (READ ITEMS RATED AS "MAJOR" IN Q16 IN SAME ORDER)

Combo table of Q16 and Q17 responses based on half sample A (n=607), includes those who rated only one item as "major"

	03/12
Whether the justices' themselves hold liberal or conservative views	22
The justices' analysis and interpretation of the law	19
National politics	16
Whether a justice was appointed by a Republican or Democratic president	11
The views of average Americans	9
The justices' past personal experiences	6
None of these/Some other factor (VOL.)	1
None will play a major role	13
Don't know/Refused	3

18. When the Supreme Court rules on the case challenging parts of the health care law, how big of a role do you think each of the following SHOULD play in their decision? What about (INSERT FIRST ITEM, RANDOMIZE)? Should this play a major role, a minor role, or no role at all in the justices' decision on this case? READ FOR READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS: What about (INSERT NEXT ITEM, RANDOMIZE)? [READ AS NECESSARY: Should this play a major role, a minor role, or no role at all in the Supreme Court justices' decision on the health care law?]

Based on half sample B (n=601)

	Major role	Minor role	No role	Don't know/Refused
a. National politics	26	29	41	4
b. Whether the justices' themselves hold liberal or conservative views	27	27	41	5
c. The justices' past personal experiences	28	36	30	6
d. The justices' analysis and interpretation of the law	53	29	12	6
e. Whether a justice was appointed by a Republican or Democratic president	25	23	49	3
f. The views of average Americans	50	26	22	2

19. And which of these do you think should play the MOST important role in the justices' decision on this case? (READ ITEMS RATED AS "MAJOR" IN Q18 IN SAME ORDER)

Combo table of Q18 and Q19 responses based on half sample B (n=601), includes those who rated only one item as "major"

	03/12
The views of average Americans	34
The justices' analysis and interpretation of the law	29
Whether the justices' themselves hold liberal or conservative views	5
Whether a justice was appointed by a Republican or Democratic president	5
National politics	3
The justices' past personal experiences	3
None of these/Some other factor (VOL.)	3
None will play a major role	16
Don't know/Refused	1

READ: As you may know, one of the parts of the law that the Supreme Court will rule on is the requirement that nearly all Americans have health insurance.

20. In your own opinion, do you think the Supreme Court should rule that it is (constitutional) or (UNconstitutional) for the federal government to require all Americans to have health insurance, or do you not know enough to say? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

	03/12	01/12
Constitutional	28	17
Unconstitutional	51	54
Don't know enough to say	19	28
Don't know/Refused	2	1

21. And do you EXPECT the Supreme Court to rule that the requirement that all Americans have health insurance is (constitutional) or (unconstitutional)? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES IN SAME ORDER AS Q20)

	03/12	01/12
Constitutional	33	29
Unconstitutional	53	55
Don't know/Refused	14	16

22. If the Supreme Court rules that the federal government CANNOT require Americans to have health insurance, do you expect some parts of the health care law will still be implemented, or do you think this will effectively mean the end of the entire law?

	03/12	01/12
Some parts of the law will still be implemented	62	55
Effectively means end of the entire law	28	30
Don't know/Refused	10	15

ROTATE ORDER OF Q23 AND Q24

23. If the Supreme Court rules that the part of the law requiring all Americans to have health insurance is UNCONSTITUTIONAL and should be struck down, how would you feel about this decision? Would you feel (ROTATE ORDER 1-4,4-1)?

	03/12
Angry	12
Disappointed but not angry	30
Satisfied but not enthusiastic	32
Enthusiastic	17
Some other emotion (VOL.)	1
Would not care (VOL.)	3
Don't know/Refused	4

24. If the Supreme Court rules that the part of the law requiring all Americans to have health insurance is CONSTITUTIONAL and should be upheld, how would you feel about this decision? Would you feel (ROTATE ORDER 1-4,4-1)?

	03/12
Angry	25
Disappointed but not angry	30
Satisfied but not enthusiastic	26
Enthusiastic	13
Some other emotion (VOL.)	1
Would not care (VOL.)	2
Don't know/Refused	3

25. If the Supreme Court rules that the part of the law requiring all Americans to have health insurance is UNCONSTITUTIONAL, would that make you feel more negatively about the rest of the law, or wouldn't it change your feelings?

Based on those who have a favorable view of the health reform law (n=496)

	03/12
Would feel more negatively about the rest of the law	14
Wouldn't change your feelings	79
Would feel more positively about the rest of the law (VOL.)	1
Don't know/Refused	5

Summary Q1 and Q25 based on total

	03/12
Have favorable view of health reform law	41
Would feel more negatively about the rest of the law if ruled that health insurance mandate is unconstitutional	6
Wouldn't change feelings	32
Would feel more positively about the rest of the law (VOL.)	*
Don't know/Refused	2
Have unfavorable view of health reform law	40
Don't know/Refused	19

26. If the Supreme Court rules that the part of the law requiring all Americans to have health insurance is CONSTITUTIONAL, would that make you feel more positively about the law in general, or wouldn't it change your feelings?

Based on those who have an unfavorable view of the health reform law (n=529)

	03/12
Would feel more positively about the law in general	9
Wouldn't change your feelings	80
Would feel more negatively about the law in general (VOL.)	8
Don't know/Refused	3

Summary Q1 and Q26 based on total

	03/12
Have unfavorable view of health reform law	40
Would feel more positively about the law in general if ruled that health insurance mandate is constitutional	4
Wouldn't change feelings	32
Would feel more negatively about the law in general (VOL.)	3
Don't know/Refused	1
Have favorable view of health reform law	41
Don't know/Refused	19

27. If the Supreme Court rules that the health care law is UNCONSTITUTIONAL, do you think lawmakers should (focus on developing new proposals to improve Americans' access to affordable health care), or should they (stop talking about health care and focus on other national problems)? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES)

	03/12
Lawmakers should focus on developing new proposals to improve Americans' access to affordable health care	60
Lawmakers should stop talking about health care and focus on other national problems	34
Lawmakers should do something else (VOL.)	2
Don't know/Refused	5

DEMOGRAPHICS

Finally, I have just a few questions we will use to describe the people who took part in our survey...

D1. Record respondent's sex

Male	49
Female	51

D3. What best describes your employment situation today? (READ IN ORDER)

Employed full-time	45
Employed part-time	11
Unemployed and currently seeking employment	7
Unemployed and not seeking employment	1
A student	6
Retired	18
On disability and can't work	6
Or, a homemaker or stay at home parent?	4
Don't know/Refused	2

D4. Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan or do you not have health insurance at this time? (READ IF NECESSARY: A health plan would include any private insurance plan through your employer or a plan that you purchased yourself, as well as a government program like Medicare or [Medicaid/Medi-CAL])?

Covered by health insurance	83
Not covered by health insurance	16
Don't know/Refused	1

D4a. Which of the following is your MAIN source of health insurance coverage? Is it a plan through your or your spouse's employer, a plan you purchased yourself, are you covered by Medicare or (Medicaid/Medi-CAL), some other government program, or do you get your health insurance from somewhere else?

Based on those who are insured (n=1,033)

Plan through your/your spouse's employer	52
Plan you purchased yourself	10
Medicare	18
Medicaid/Medi-CAL	6
Some other government program	5
Somewhere else (SPECIFY)	2
Plan through your parents/mother/father (VOL.)	5
Don't know/Refused	1

Summary of D4 and D4a based on total

Covered by health insurance	83
Employer or spouse's employer	43
Self-purchased plan	8
Medicare	15
Medicaid/Medi-CAL	5
Other government program	4
Somewhere else	1
Plan through parents/mother/father (VOL.)	4
Don't know/Refused	1
Not covered by health insurance	16
Don't know/Refused	1

D4b. In general, the term “pre-existing condition” is used by insurance companies to describe an illness or medical condition that a person had before they began looking for insurance. For example, if you were looking to buy health insurance but had a history of asthma, diabetes or high blood pressure, those would be considered pre-existing conditions, along with illnesses such as cancer. Given that definition, would you say that you or someone else in your household would be considered to have a “pre-existing condition” of some sort, or not?

Yes, someone in household has pre-existing condition	52
No, no one in household has pre-existing condition	45
Don’t know/Refused	3

D4c. Is that you or someone else in your household?

Based on someone in household has pre-existing condition (n=647)

Respondent	45
Someone else in household	32
Both respondent and someone else in household (VOL.)	22
Don’t know/Refused	1

Summary of D4b and D4c based on total

Total with pre-existing condition	52
Respondent	23
Someone else	17
Both respondent and someone else (VOL.)	11
Don’t know/Refused	*
No pre-existing condition	45
Don’t know/Refused	3

D5. What is your age? (RECORD EXACT AGE AS TWO-DIGIT CODE.)

D6. (ASK IF DON’T KNOW OR REFUSED AGE) Could you please tell me if you are between the ages of (READ LIST)...

18-29	22
30-49	32
50-64	27
65 and older	17
Don’t know/Refused	2

D8. In politics today, do you consider yourself a [ROTATE: Republican, Democrat/Democrat, Republican], an Independent, or what?

Republican	23
Democrat	31
Independent	36
Or what/Other/None/No preference/Other party	6
Don’t know/Refused	4

D8a. Do you LEAN more towards the [ROTATE: Republican Party or the Democratic Party/Democratic Party or the Republican Party]?
[ROTATE ITEMS IN SAME ORDER AS D8]

D8/D8a. Combo Table based on total

Republican/Lean Republican	37
Democrat/Lean Democratic	43
Other/Don’t lean/Don’t know	19

<u>Five-Point Party ID</u>	
Democrat	31
Independent Lean Democratic	12
Independent/Don't lean	19
Independent Lean Republican	15
Republican	23
Undesignated	1

D8b. Would you say your views in most political matters are liberal, moderate or conservative?

Liberal	21
Moderate	39
Conservative	34
Don't know/Refused	6

D8c. Do you consider yourself to be a supporter of the Tea Party movement, or not?

Yes, supporter of Tea Party movement	25
No, not a supporter of Tea Party movement	65
Don't know/Refused	10

D9. Some people are registered to vote and others are not. Are you currently registered to vote at your present address?

Yes	77
No	21
Don't know/Refused	3

D10. How often would you say you vote...always, nearly always, part of the time, or seldom?

Based on registered voters (n=988)

Always	58
Nearly always	25
Part of the time	10
Seldom	5
Never vote (VOL.)	1
Other (VOL.)	*
Don't know/Refused	1

Summary of D9 and D10 based on total

Yes, registered to vote	77
Always vote	44
Nearly always vote	19
Vote part of the time	8
Seldom vote	4
Never vote (VOL.)	1
Other (VOL.)	*
Don't know how often	1
No, not registered	21
Don't know/Refused	3

D10a. How likely are you to vote in the REPUBLICAN presidential primary or caucus in your state? Very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, or not at all likely?

Based on registered voters (n=988)

Very likely	41
Somewhat likely	11
Not too likely	7
Not at all likely	36
Already voted (VOL.)	2
Don't know/Refused	3

Summary of D10 and D10a based on total

Yes, registered to vote	77
Very likely	31
Somewhat likely	8
Not too likely	5
Not at all likely	28
Already voted (VOL.)	2
Don't know/Refused	2
No, not registered	21
Don't know/Refused	3

D11. What is the LAST grade or class that you COMPLETED in school? (DO NOT READ)

None, or grade 1-8	2
High school incomplete (grades 9-11)	10
High school graduate (grade 12 or GED certificate)	31
Technical, trade or vocational school AFTER high school	3
Some college, no four-year degree (includes associate degree)	24
College graduate (B.S., B.A., or other four-year degree)	18
Post-graduate or professional schooling after college (e.g., toward a Master's degree or Ph.D; law or medical school)	10
Don't know/Refused	3

D12. Are you, yourself, of Hispanic or Latino background, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Spanish background?

D13. What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian or some other race? (IF RESPONDENT SAYS HISPANIC ASK: Do you consider yourself a white Hispanic or a black Hispanic?)

White, non-Hispanic	67
Total non-White	30
Black or African-American, non-Hispanic	11
Hispanic	14
Asian, non-Hispanic	2
Other/Mixed race, non-Hispanic	2
Undesignated	4

D12a. Were you born in the United States, on the island of Puerto Rico, or in another country?

Based on Hispanics (n=139)

U.S.	44
Puerto Rico	3
Another country	52
Don't know/Refused	1

D15. Are you currently married, living with a partner, divorced, separated, widowed, or have you never been married?

Married	52
Living with a partner	7
Divorced	8
Separated	2
Widowed	5
Never been married	23
Don't know/Refused	3

D14. Last year—that is, in 2011—what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category. (READ)

Less than \$20,000	16
\$20,000 to less than \$30,000	14
\$30,000 to less than \$40,000	9
\$40,000 to less than \$50,000	9
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	13
\$75,000 to less than \$90,000	6
\$90,000 to less than \$100,000	3
\$100,000 or more	14
Don't know/Refused	15

END OF INTERVIEW: That's all the questions I have. Thanks for your time.

Kaiser Family Foundation: Omnibus Supplement

The following two questions were fielded on a separate survey from March 1-4, 2012. See methodology section for more details.

READ: As you may know, a health reform bill was signed into law in 2010.

O1. As far as you know, which comes closest to describing the current status of the health reform law that was passed in 2010? [READ AND ROTATE OPTIONS]

	03/12 omnibus	02/11 ¹³ omnibus
It is still the law of the land (or)	58	52
It has been overturned by the Supreme Court and is no longer law	14	22
Don't know/Refused	28	26

O2. I'm going to read you a list of specific elements or parts of the law. For each, please tell me whether you think it is included in the health reform law, or not. First, to the best of your knowledge, would you say the health reform law does or does not (INSERT AND RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS)? Would you say the law does or does not (INSERT NEXT ITEM)?

Items a-g based on half sample A (n=503)

Items h-n based on half sample B (n=506)

		Yes, law does this	No, law does not do this	Don't know/ Refused
a. Require nearly all Americans to have health insurance by 2014 or else pay a fine	03/12 omnibus	64	23	14
	11/11	62	27	11
	08/11	65	25	10
	12/10	64	24	11
	06/10 ¹⁴	67	26	7
	04/10	71	21	8
b. Expand the existing Medicaid program to cover more low-income, uninsured adults	03/12 omnibus	54	30	16
	11/11 ¹⁵	53	28	19
	08/11	49	32	19
	12/10	62	20	18
	06/10	66	22	12
	04/10	64	16	20
c. Prohibit insurance companies from denying coverage because of a person's medical history	03/12 omnibus	51	33	15
	11/11 ¹⁶	58	31	11
	09/11	61	30	9
	12/10	67	25	9
	06/10	70	25	5
	04/10	64	27	10

O2 continued on next page

¹³ Trend wording was "As far as you know, which comes closest to describing the current status of the health reform law that was passed last year? It is still the law of the land (or) It has been repealed and is no longer law"

¹⁴ Trend wording was: "Require nearly all Americans to have health insurance or else pay a fine".

¹⁵ Trend wording was "Expand the existing Medicaid program to cover low-income, uninsured adults regardless of whether they have children."

¹⁶ Trend wording was "Prohibit insurance companies from denying coverage because of a person's medical history or health condition."

O2 continued

		Yes, law does this	No, law does not do this	Don't know/ Refused
d. Increase the Medicare payroll tax on earnings for upper income Americans				
	03/12 omnibus	43	31	25
	11/11	52	29	19
	06/11	43	37	19
	07/10	58	25	17
e. Allow people to appeal to an independent reviewer if they disagree with their health plan's decision				
	03/12 omnibus	51	26	24
	11/11 ¹⁷	51	29	20
f. Provide tax credits to small businesses that offer coverage to their employees				
	03/12 omnibus	49	27	24
	11/11	63	22	15
	12/10	65	22	13
	06/10	67	24	9
	04/10	66	17	17
g. Create a new government run insurance plan to be offered along with private plans				
	03/12 omnibus	52	30	18
	11/11	56	31	13
	12/10	59	27	14
h. Require employers with 50 or more employees to pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance				
	03/12 omnibus	53	24	23
	11/11 ¹⁸	65	21	13
i. Provide financial help to low and moderate income Americans who don't get insurance through their jobs to help them purchase coverage				
	03/12 omnibus	56	28	17
	11/11	64	30	6
	08/11	58	32	10
	12/10	72	18	10
	06/10	72	21	7
	04/10	75	17	8
j. Require insurance plans to offer a minimum package of health insurance benefits, to be defined by the government				
	03/12 omnibus	57	21	22
	11/11 ¹⁹	61	26	13
	08/11	57	25	18
	06/10	64	23	13
k. Eliminate out-of-pocket costs for many preventive services such as blood pressure or cholesterol screenings				
	03/12 omnibus	37	39	24
	11/11 ²⁰	36	50	14
	08/11	29	52	20

O2 continued on next page

¹⁷ Trend wording was "Allow consumers to appeal to an independent reviewer if they disagree with their health plan's decision about what services it will pay for."

¹⁸ Trend wording was: "Require employers with 50 or more employees to pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance to their workers."

¹⁹ Trend wording was: "Require insurance plans to offer a minimum package of health insurance benefits, to be defined by the federal government."

²⁰ Trend wording was: "Eliminate co-pays and deductibles that people previously had to pay for many preventive services."

O2 continued

		Yes, law does this	No, law does not do this	Don't know/ Refused
i. Require insurance companies that spend too little money on health care services and too much on administrative costs and profits to give their customers a rebate	03/12 omnibus	35	34	30
	11/11	38	42	20
	04/10 ²¹	37	32	31
m. Require health plans to provide consumers with easy-to-understand information about benefits and coverage	03/12 omnibus	49	33	19
	11/11	58	33	9
n. Allow a government panel to make decisions about end-of-life care for people on Medicare	03/12 omnibus	36	45	20
	11/11	35	53	12
	12/10	40	45	15
	07/10	41	43	16

Demographic information for the Omnibus Supplement available upon request.

²¹ Trend wording for this item was "Require insurance companies that are spending too little of their customer's money on health care services and too much on administrative costs and profits to give those customers a rebate".

Trend Information

02/12: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (February 13-19, 2012)
01/12: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (January 12-17, 2012)
12/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (December 8-13, 2011)
11/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (November 10-15, 2011)
10/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (October 13-18, 2011)
09/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (September 7-12, 2011)
08/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (August 10-15, 2011)
07/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (July 13-18, 2011)
06/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (June 9-14, 2011)
05/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (May 12-17, 2011)
04/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (April 7-12, 2011)
03/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (March 8-13, 2011)
02/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll February 2011 Omnibus Supplement* (February 3-6, 2011)
02/11: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (February 8-13, 2011)
01/11: Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health *The Public's Health Care Agenda for the 112th Congress* (January 4-14, 2011)
12/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (December 1-6, 2010)
11/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (November 3-6, 2010)
10/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (October 5-10, 2010)
09/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (September 14-19, 2010)
08/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (August 16-22, 2010)
07/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (July 8-13, 2010)
06/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (June 17-22, 2010)
05/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (May 11-16, 2010)
04/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (April 9-14, 2010)
03/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (March 10-15, 2010)
02/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (February 11-15, 2010)
01/10: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (January 7-12, 2010)
12/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (December 7-13, 2009)
11/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (November 5-12, 2009)
10/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (October 8-15, 2009)
09/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (September 11-18, 2009)
08/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (August 4-11, 2009)
07/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (July 7-14, 2009)
06/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (June 1-8, 2009)
04/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (April 2-8, 2009)
02/09: Kaiser Family Foundation *Kaiser Health Tracking Poll* (February 3-12, 2009)



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