



Chartpack

Kaiser Health Tracking Poll: October 2012

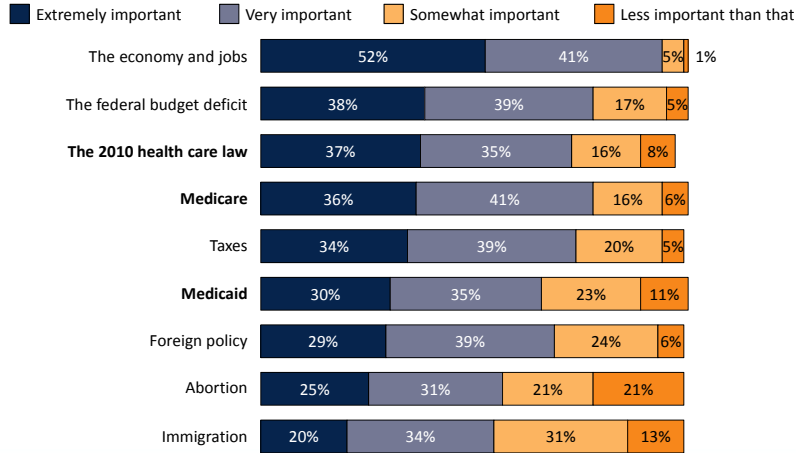
October 2012

SLIDE 1

Economy Tops Voters' Issue Agenda, But Health Care Issues Also In Mix

Thinking ahead to the November election, please tell me how important each of the following will be to your vote for president.

AMONG LIKELY VOTERS



Note: Asked of half sample. Don't know/Refused answers not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll (conducted October 18-23, 2012)

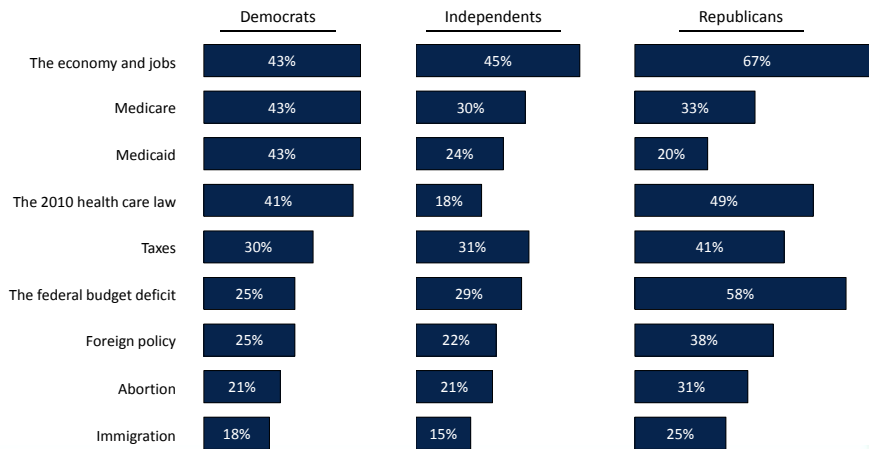


SLIDE 2

Issue Priorities Vary With Party Affiliation

Percent who say that each of the following issues will be extremely important to their vote for president:

AMONG LIKELY VOTERS



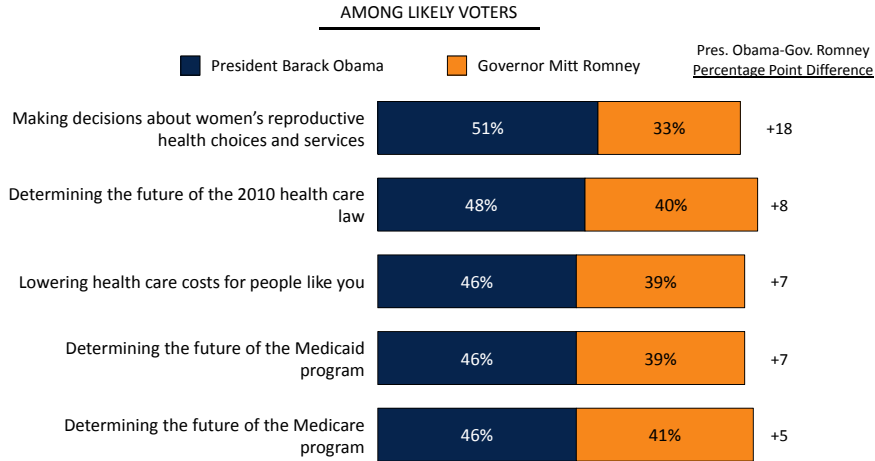
Note: Asked of half sample.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll (conducted October 18-23, 2012)



SLIDE 3

President Obama Holds Narrowed Advantage On Most Health Policy Issues

Which presidential candidate, Barack Obama or Mitt Romney, do you trust to do a better job at each of the following?



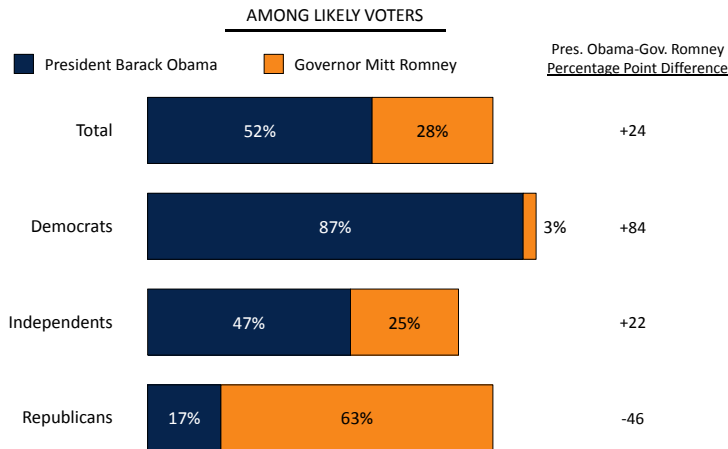
Note: Both (vol.), Neither/Other (vol.), and Don't know/Refused answers not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll (conducted October 18-23, 2012)



SLIDE 4

More Say People With Pre-Existing Conditions Would Fare Better Under President's Health Plan

Do you think people with pre-existing health conditions would have a better chance of getting health insurance under President Obama's health plan or under Governor Romney's health plan?



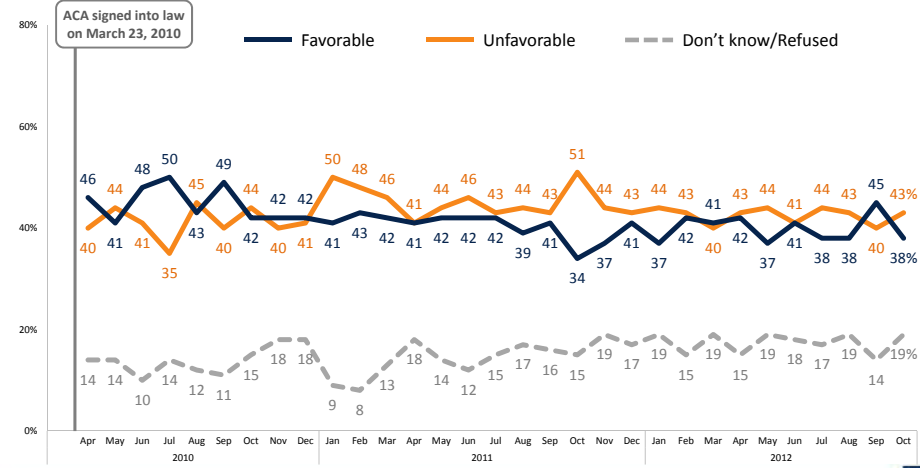
Note: Both (vol.), Neither (vol.), and Don't know/Refused answers not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll (conducted October 18-23, 2012)



SLIDE 5

Public Remains Divided On ACA; September Uptick Erased

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?



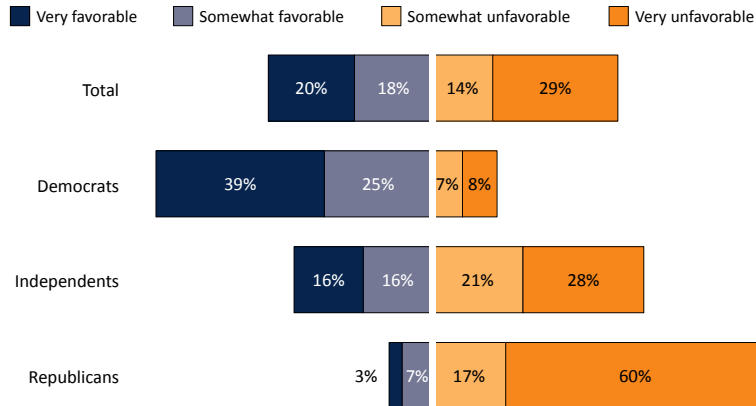
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Polls



SLIDE 6

Large Share Of Republicans Intense In Their Opposition To ACA

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?



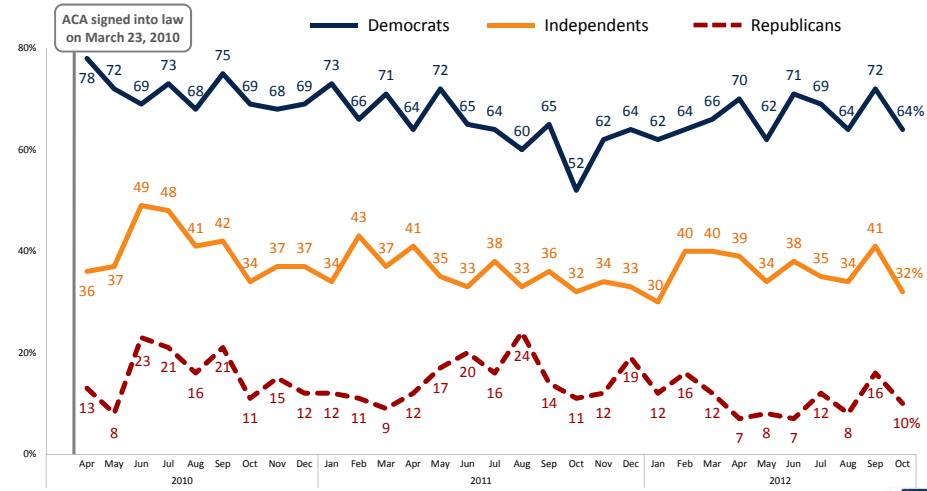
Note: Don't know/Refused answers not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll (conducted October 18-23, 2012)



SLIDE 7

Chronic Partisan Divide Over ACA

Percent who say they have a favorable opinion of the health reform law:



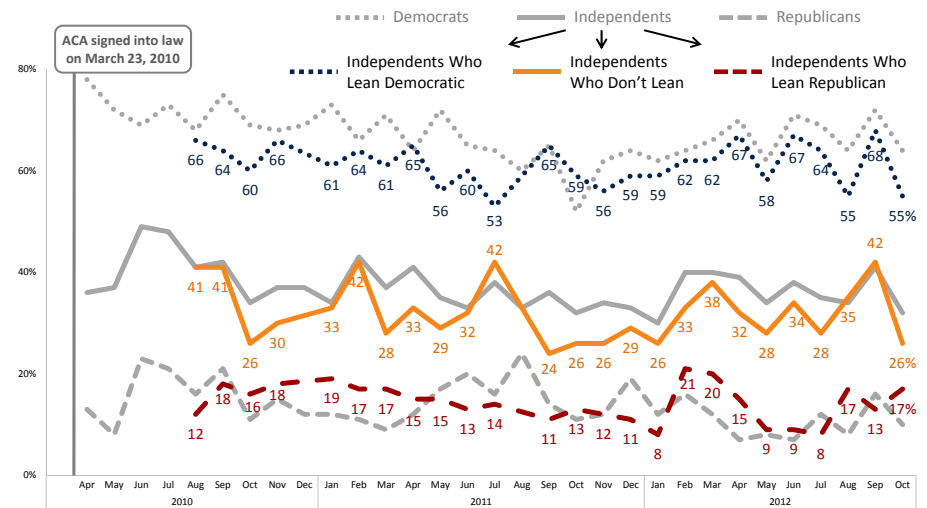
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Polls



SLIDE 8

On ACA, Independents Who Lean Still Look Like Partisans

Percent who say they have a favorable opinion of the health reform law:



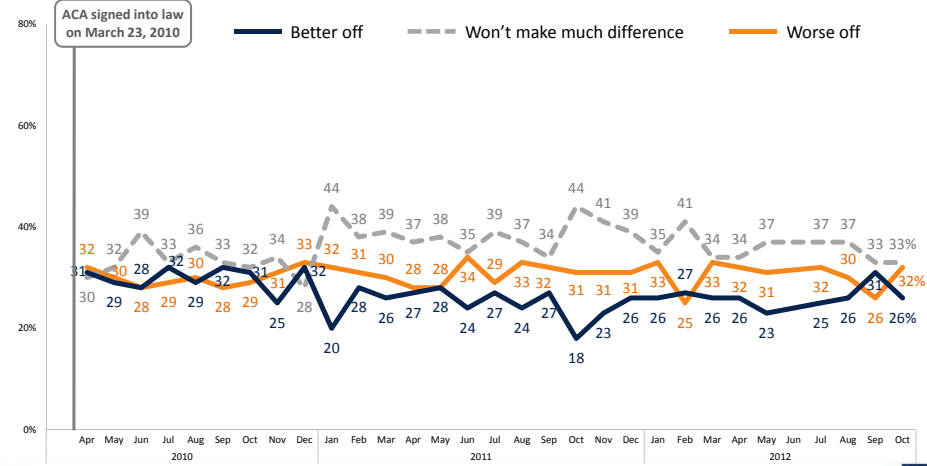
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Polls



SLIDE 9

Public Split On How ACA Will Impact Their Own Family

Do you think you and your family will be better off or worse off under the health reform law, or don't you think it will make much difference?



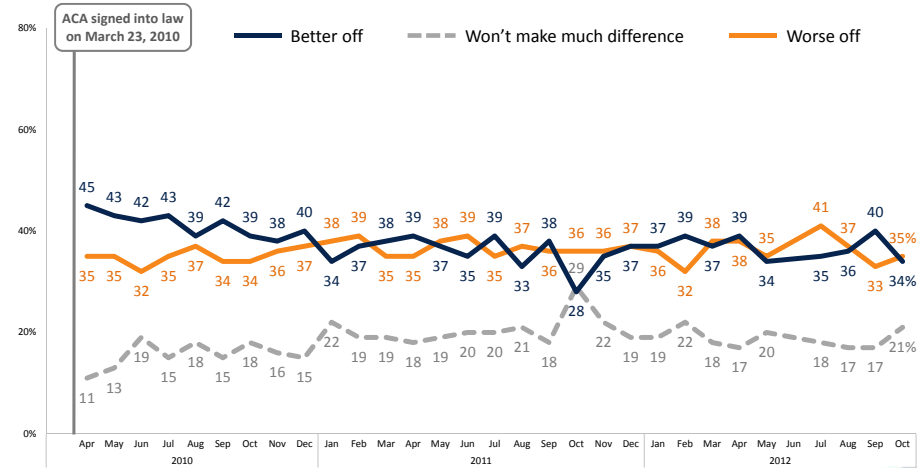
Note: Don't know/Refused answers not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Polls



SLIDE 10

Will Country Benefit From ACA? Another Lasting Division Of Opinion

Do you think the country as a whole will be better off or worse off under the health reform law, or don't you think it will make much difference?



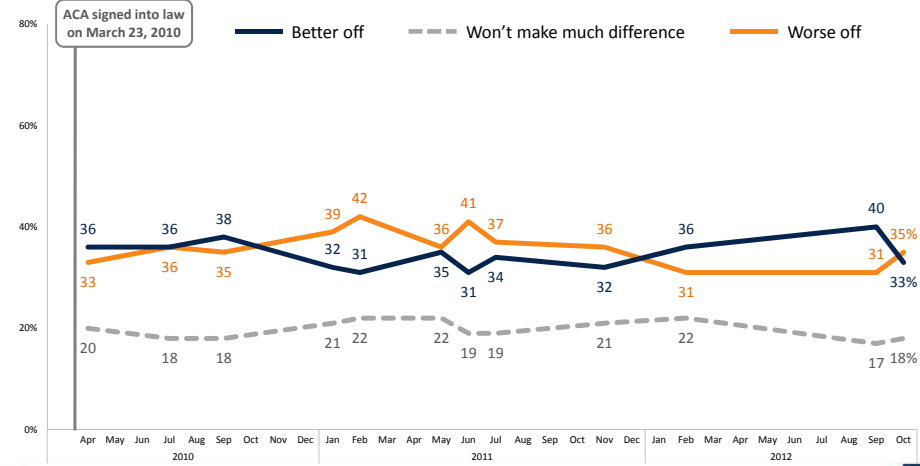
Note: Don't know/Refused answers not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Polls



SLIDE 11

Public Split On ACA's Impact On Seniors

Do you think seniors, that is those ages 65 and older, will be better off or worse off under the health reform law, or don't you think it will make much difference?



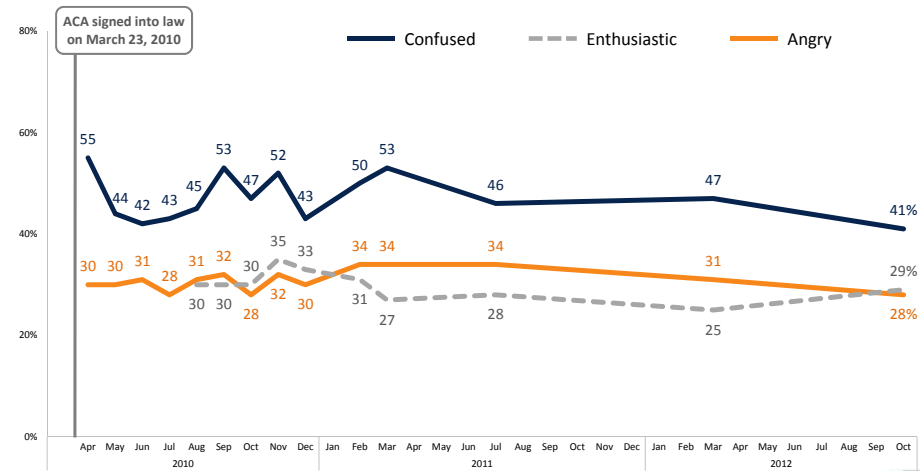
Note: Don't know/Refused answers not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Polls



SLIDE 12

Four In Ten Say They Are "Confused" About Health Reform Law; Equal Shares "Angry" And "Enthusiastic"

Percent who say that each of the following describes their feelings about the health reform law:



Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Polls



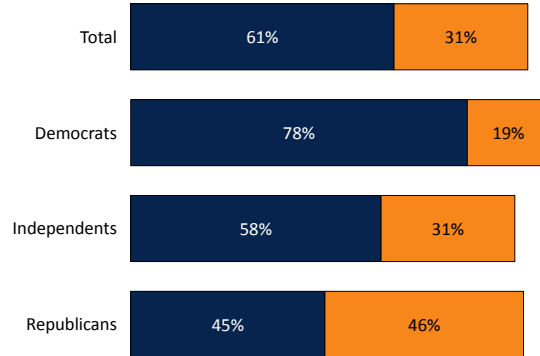
SLIDE 13

Majority Of Voters Oppose Changing Medicare To Premium Support System

Which of these two descriptions comes closer to your view of what Medicare should look like in the future?

AMONG LIKELY VOTERS

- **Medicare should continue as it is today**, with the government guaranteeing all seniors the same set of health insurance benefits
- **Medicare should be changed** to a system in which the government guarantees each senior a fixed amount of money to help them purchase coverage either from traditional Medicare or from a list of private health plans



Note: Other (vol.) and Don't know/Refused answers not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation *Health Tracking Poll* (conducted October 18-23, 2012)



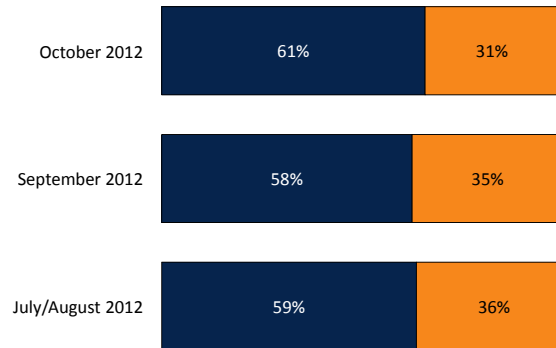
SLIDE 14

Little Change In Backing For Medicare Premium Support Over The Fall

Which of these two descriptions comes closer to your view of what Medicare should look like in the future?

AMONG LIKELY VOTERS

- **Medicare should continue as it is today**, with the government guaranteeing all seniors the same set of health insurance benefits
- **Medicare should be changed** to a system in which the government guarantees each senior a fixed amount of money to help them purchase coverage either from traditional Medicare or from a list of private health plans



Note: The July/August survey data is among 'Registered Voters'. Other (vol.) and Don't know/Refused answers not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation *Health Tracking Polls*; *The Washington Post*/Kaiser Family Foundation Dimensions of Partisanship Survey (conducted July 25 – August 5, 2012)

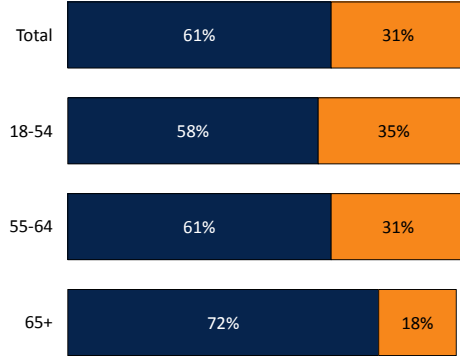


Seniors Most Opposed To Changing Medicare To Premium Support System

Which of these two descriptions comes closer to your view of what Medicare should look like in the future?

AMONG LIKELY VOTERS

- Medicare should continue as it is today**, with the government guaranteeing all seniors the same set of health insurance benefits
- Medicare should be changed** to a system in which the government guarantees each senior a fixed amount of money to help them purchase coverage either from traditional Medicare or from a list of private health plans

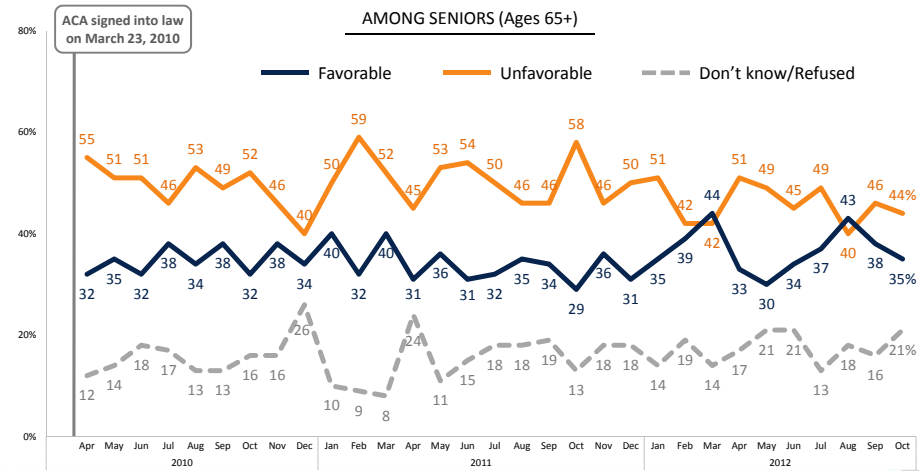


Note: Other (vol.) and Don't know/Refused answers not shown.
 Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll (conducted October 18-23, 2012)



Unfavorable Views Of ACA Outstrip Favorable Among Seniors

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?

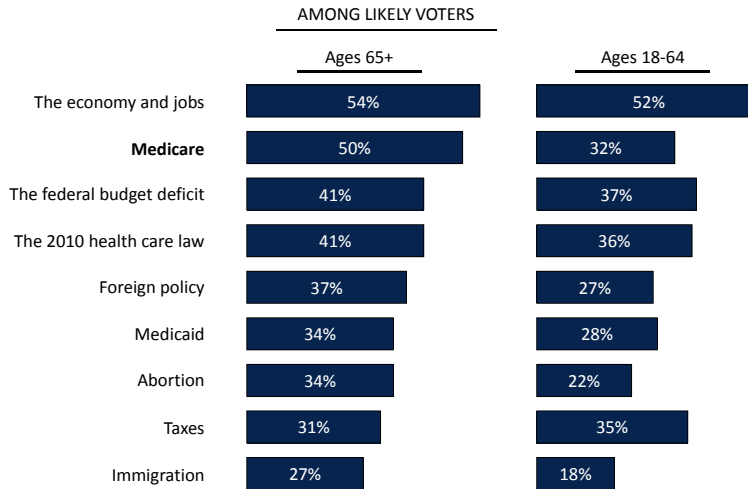


Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Polls



Among Seniors, Medicare Pulls Nearly Even With Economy As Top Issue

Percent who say that each of the following issues will be extremely important to their vote for president:



Note: Asked of half sample.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll (conducted October 18-23, 2012)



Seniors Divided On Which Candidate To Trust With Medicare, Even As Majority Oppose Shifting Program To Premium Support

AMONG LIKELY VOTERS AGES 65+

Which presidential candidate, Barack Obama or Mitt Romney, do you trust to do a better job determining the future of the Medicare program?



Which of these two descriptions comes closer to your view of what Medicare should look like in the future?



Note: Both (vol.), Neither/Other (vol.), Other (vol.) and Don't know/Refused answers not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll (conducted October 18-23, 2012)



SLIDE 19

Voters More Aware Of President's Plans For ACA Than Governor Romney's

How familiar are you with [Mitt Romney's/Barack Obama's] plans for the 2010 health care law?

AMONG LIKELY VOTERS

Very familiar Somewhat familiar Not too familiar Not at all familiar

President Obama's Plan



Governor Romney's Plan



Note: Don't know/Refused answers not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Polls



SLIDE 20

More Familiar With President Obama's Plans For Medicare, But Small Uptick For Governor Romney Over Past Month

How familiar are you with [Mitt Romney's/Barack Obama's] plans for the Medicare program?

AMONG LIKELY VOTERS

Very familiar Somewhat familiar Not too familiar Not at all familiar

President Obama's Plan



Governor Romney's Plan



Note: Don't know/Refused answers not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Polls



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 Claudia Deane, Sarah Cho, and Theresa Boston. The survey was conducted October 18-23, 2012, among a nationally representative random digit dial telephone sample of 1,215 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 (511, including 282 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). The combined landline and cell phone sample was weighted to balance the sample demographics to match Census estimates for the national population on sex, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, nativity (for Hispanics only), region, and telephone usage.

All statistical tests of significance account for the effect of weighting. The margin of sampling error including the design effect for the full sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For likely voters, the margin of sampling error is plus or minus 4 percentage points. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

The full question wording and methodology of the polls can be viewed online at:

<http://www.kff.org/kaiserpolls/8381.cfm>.



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*The Kaiser Family Foundation, a leader in health policy analysis, health journalism and communication, is dedicated to filling the need for trusted, independent information on the major health issues facing our nation and its people.
The Foundation is a non-profit private operating foundation, based in Menlo Park, California.*