

## **Introduction**

Researchers at Indiana University Center for Health Policy and Professionalism Research (CHPPR) and the Indiana University Center for Bioethics (IUCB) designed this survey to determine whether or not Americans believe several controversial assertions surrounding the health care reforms currently being proposed by the White House. These assertions can be grouped into four categories:

- How involved will the government be in your health care if reforms pass
- How reforms will affect your current health insurance coverage
- Who and what will be covered if reforms pass
- How much will reforms cost and how will we pay for it

CHPPR performs quick turnaround research on the topics of healthcare financing, the uninsured, medical education/training, and ethical, professional and legal issues pertaining to physician practice. It is the goal of CHPPR to serve as an objective source of information for both policymakers and health care professionals. The IUCB's mission is to provide leadership to advance the academic and public understanding of bioethics and to inform the development of social and public policy in health, research, and related fields.

Market Strategies International conducted the survey on behalf of CHPPR and IUCB during the period between August 13 and August 18, 2009. A total of 600 adults (ages 18 or above) living in the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia responded to this survey. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 4 percentage points.

## Survey Questions

Recently, there has been a lot in the news about the health insurance reforms being proposed by President Barack Obama. I am going to read a list of statements about his proposed health insurance reform plan. After each statement, please tell me whether or not you believe it is true. (STATEMENTS RANDOMIZED DURING FIELDING)

F1. If the reforms pass, millions of Americans will lose their current health insurance. (READ IF NECESSARY: “Do you believe this statement about health care reform is true?”)

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	37.8	14.5	63.3	39.8	30.3	46.1	36.3	39.6	41.7	40.1	39.5	36.1
No	62.2	85.5	36.7	60.2	69.7	53.9	63.7	60.4	58.3	59.9	60.5	63.9

F2. If the reforms pass, the Federal Government will become directly involved in making personal health care decisions for you.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	52.6	25.4	80.1	56.4	53.4	60.5	50.7	49.5	45.3	48.0	56.9	48.5
No	47.4	74.6	19.9	43.6	46.6	39.5	49.3	50.5	54.7	52.0	43.1	51.5

F3. If the reforms pass, health care services such as treatments, physicians, and care will be rationed.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	53.8	31.8	74.3	57.4	58.2	61.4	50.2	48.2	44.5	46.3	58.9	48.7
No	46.2	68.2	25.7	42.6	41.8	38.6	49.8	51.8	55.5	53.7	41.1	51.3

F4. If the reforms pass, small businesses will be hurt.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	49.2	21.6	70.9	55.7	39.0	48.6	60.4	47.9	58.6	59.7	50.9	47.7
No	50.8	78.4	29.1	44.3	61.0	51.4	39.6	52.1	41.4	40.3	49.1	52.3

F5. If the reforms pass, private insurance coverage will be eliminated.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	28.8	11.1	43.5	32.5	22.9	31.6	29.5	31.3	31.0	36.4	27.7	29.9
No	71.2	88.9	56.5	67.5	77.1	68.4	70.5	68.7	69.0	63.6	72.3	70.1

F6. If the reforms pass, employer-sponsored insurance coverage will be eliminated.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	32.8	13.5	56.2	31.0	31.7	29.9	35.1	32.0	38.4	34.0	31.3	34.1
No	67.2	86.5	43.8	69.0	68.3	70.1	64.9	68.0	61.6	66.0	68.7	65.9

F7. If the reforms pass, a public insurance option will put private insurance companies out of business.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	35.9	18.1	56.2	35.4	34.8	37.7	31.8	38.4	37.3	39.9	36.3	35.6
No	64.1	81.9	43.8	64.6	65.2	62.3	68.2	61.6	62.7	60.1	63.7	64.4

F8. If the reforms pass, taxpayers will be required to pay for abortions.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	55.4	30.1	78.2	58.1	56.9	61.0	54.0	48.8	57.5	48.1	61.5	50.1
No	44.6	69.9	21.8	41.9	43.1	39.0	46.0	51.2	42.5	51.9	38.5	49.9

F9. If the reforms pass, the Federal Government will make decisions about whether you will be treated or not.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	48.8	21.0	79.3	52.0	51.6	42.4	51.8	47.9	46.2	50.8	55.0	42.9
No	51.2	79.0	20.7	48.0	48.4	57.6	48.2	52.1	53.8	49.2	45.0	57.1

F10. If the reforms pass, all illegal immigrants will be covered.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	45.8	29.3	66.2	42.9	38.0	52.4	50.8	46.4	45.5	46.8	46.2	45.3
No	54.2	70.7	33.8	57.1	62.0	47.6	49.2	53.6	54.5	53.2	53.8	54.7

F11. A “public insurance option” that competes with private insurance will be too expensive for the United States to afford.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	55.9	27.3	84.4	58.1	53.5	58.6	60.2	53.9	52.6	55.2	58.8	52.9
No	44.1	72.7	15.6	41.9	46.5	41.4	39.8	46.1	47.4	44.8	41.2	47.1

F12. Tort reform, which would limit the amount of money awarded to injured patients in malpractice cases, will decrease health care costs.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	60.3	57.9	63.6	60.8	70.0	55.6	56.6	57.3	62.2	45.6	62.4	58.2
No	39.7	42.1	36.4	39.2	30.0	44.4	43.4	42.7	37.8	54.4	37.6	41.8

F13. If the reforms pass, wait times for health care services like surgery will increase.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	67.0	37.3	91.0	72.1	78.2	63.5	65.4	59.9	60.7	53.5	70.4	63.6
No	33.0	62.7	9.0	27.9	21.8	36.5	34.6	40.1	39.3	46.5	29.6	36.4

F14. If the reforms pass, a government official will be put in charge of your medical records.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	48.3	20.0	72.5	52.4	46.0	55.4	49.9	44.4	47.0	44.3	49.9	46.8
No	51.7	80.0	27.5	47.6	54.0	44.6	50.1	55.6	53.0	55.7	50.1	53.2

F15. If the reforms pass, the government will require the elderly to make decisions about how and when they will die.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	31.2	14.3	52.6	30.6	27.7	32.3	29.4	37.1	33.4	32.4	34.9	27.7
No	68.8	85.7	47.4	69.4	72.3	67.7	70.6	62.9	66.6	67.6	65.1	72.3

F16. If the reforms pass, the elderly will have to undergo euthanasia counseling every 5 years.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	22.7	10.1	41.4	22.1	19.2	22.0	21.9	28.4	26.9	23.7	20.0	25.1
No	77.3	89.9	58.6	77.9	80.8	78.0	78.1	71.6	73.1	76.3	80.0	74.9

F17. If the reforms pass, a “public insurance option” will increase health care costs, not lower them.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	51.2	21.3	78.8	53.0	49.9	50.3	49.9	49.0	58.1	58.9	52.8	49.7
No	48.8	78.7	21.2	47.0	50.1	49.7	50.1	51.0	41.9	41.1	47.2	50.3

F18. If the reforms pass, a “public insurance option” will actually increase premiums for Americans with private insurance.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	54.0	28.1	77.5	57.9	54.4	57.8	54.5	47.0	48.7	58.9	54.8	53.2
No	46.0	71.9	22.5	42.1	45.6	42.2	45.5	53.0	51.3	41.1	45.2	46.8

F19. If the reforms pass, they will cover more Americans by making cuts to Medicare.

	Total	Party Affiliation			Age						Gender	
	%	Democratic	Republican	No Affiliation (Independent)	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Male	Female
Yes (True)	48.9	36.8	66.2	43.9	45.2	48.1	51.9	51.1	53.3	49.2	49.7	48.3
No	51.1	63.2	33.8	56.1	54.8	51.9	48.1	48.9	46.7	50.8	50.3	51.7

D1.	Which of the following best describes your health insurance plan?	
		%
	Insurance provided by your or your spouse's employer	56.0
	Insurance you pay for yourself	14.5
	Medicare	16.4
	Medicaid	2.5
	No insurance	9.9
	Don't know/Refused	0.8
D2.	Are you currently...?	
		%
	Employed full-time	50.6
	Employed part-time	9.3
	Unemployed	5.1
	Retired	17.7
	Homemaker	6.1
	Temporarily laid-off	1.5
	Student	4.4
	Other	5.2
	Don't know/Refused	0.2
D3.	What is the last grade of school you completed?	
		%
	Some high school or less	3.7
	High school graduate	17.2
	Some college/vocational/technical school	28.1
	College graduate	30.8
	Post graduate	20.1
	Don't Know/Refused	0.1

D4.	How do you describe yourself in terms of your racial or ethnic heritage?	
		%
	Non-Hispanic White/Caucasian	81.1
	Black or African American	8.0
	Hispanic	3.8
	Asian	1.7
	American Indian or Native Alaskan	0.8
	Other	3.0
	Don't Know/Refused	1.7
D5.	Do you identify yourself as...	
		%
	A Republican	25.5
	A Democrat	30.2
	With another party	4.9
	No affiliation	37.5
	Don't Know/Refused	2.0

D7. Which of the following income groups includes your total household income in 2008 before taxes (including Social Security and other payments)? Just stop me when I read the correct category.

	%
Up to \$10,000	3.3
\$10,000 - \$15,000 [14,999]	4.8
\$15,000 - \$20,000 [19,999]	3.3
\$20,000 - \$25,000 [24,999]	2.6
\$25,000 - \$30,000 [29,999]	4.4
\$30,000 - \$40,000 [39,999]	10.3
\$40,000 - \$50,000 [49,999]	6.7
\$50,000 - \$75,000 [74,999]	18.2
\$75,000 - \$100,000 [99,999]	13.1
\$100,000 and over	20.1
Don't Know/Refused	13.2

## Methodology Statement

The survey was designed by researchers at Indiana University's Center for Health Policy and Professionalism Research (CHPPR) and the Indiana University Center for Bioethics (IUCB). Market Strategies International conducted the landline telephone interviews on behalf of CHPPR and the IUCB. Six hundred individuals ages 18 and above living in the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia during the period between August 13 through 18, 2009 were interviewed.

The random digit dialing (RDD) sample was drawn using the Genesys sampling system. The Genesys system utilizes the database of all residential landline telephone exchanges (the first 6 digits of a 10 digit telephone number). This system breaks down each exchange into the 100 banks of 100 numbers (the first two digits of the final 4 digits of a telephone number represent a bank). Not all banks within valid telephone exchanges are currently in use for residential phone numbers. Since it can be inefficient or costly to call non-working numbers, the Genesys system uses information about listed telephone numbers. If 2 or more listed telephone numbers are found the bank is define as "working" and will be used as part of the sample generation process. Banks with 1 or zero listed telephone numbers are excluded. The final sample is then generated in a random fashion from within all working banks.

Dialing was done using a predictive dialer. As calls are made by the interviewers the system determines at what rate outbound dialing can be done and controls the dialing of records based on the predicted availability of an interviewer. Once a call was made on a record it received a disposition and based on that disposition was either removed from the calling order or placed in a queue to be dialed again at a later date or time. The sample was loaded into the system in a random order and dialed through in that random order. Dialing was done from 5pm-9pm respondent time on the weekdays and from 11am-9pm on weekends.

Response rates were calculated using AAPOR approved methodology. Weighting by age and gender was used to adjust for non-response. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 4 percentage points.