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Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>

Health Care Tax Credits: A Guide for Advocates



Credit: Shutterstock/Lightspring





#### **Key Takeaways:**

- When it comes to health care, Americans prioritize lowering costs.
- Americans strongly support existing health care tax credits, and three in four want to see Congress extend them. Americans are most concerned about people losing access to health care coverage and higher health care costs if Congress lets these health care tax credits expire.
- A majority of Americans say that if their member of Congress let these health care tax credits expire, they would be less favorable towards them.



### Health Care Is a Top Five Issue Priority for Americans

Women (40% top five issue), Democrats (40%), independents (38%), younger Americans 18-44 years old (37%), and service industry workers (41%) are particularly likely to say health care is a top issue.

Which do you feel are most important for the President and Congress to focus on? [Showing top 5 of 21 tested]

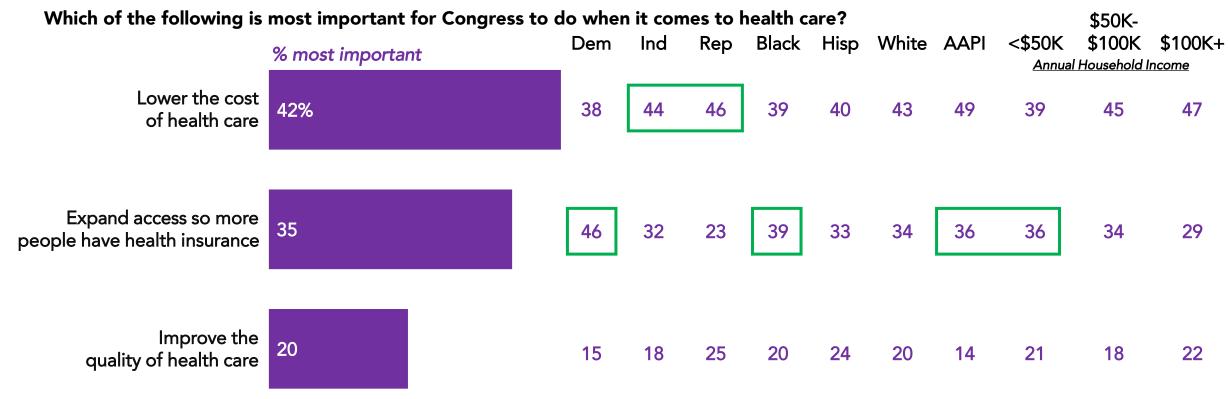
	% top five most important	Men	Wom	Dem	Ind	Rep	18-44	45-64	65+			Service industry
Inflation and the cost of living	62%	58	65	56	66	68	64	61	60	62	63	66
Jobs and the economy	47	49	44	44	46	49	52	51	33	46	49	55
Social Security and Medicare	41	40	42	47	41	36	28	43	60	42	36	42
Health care	33	26	40	40	38	25	37	34	26	34	29	41
Immigration and the border	33	37	28	13	24	55	23	36	44	32	37	27



### Americans Most Want Congress to Lower the Cost of Health Care and Expand Access to Health Insurance

Roughly two in five say it is most important that Congress lowers the cost of health care, including 44% of independents.

• Democrats (46%), Black Americans (39%), AAPI Americans (36%), and Americans in households earning less than \$50,000 a year (36%) are more likely to choose expanding access to health care than other groups.





#### Four in Five Support Existing Health Care Tax Credits

The health care tax credits passed in 2021 are overwhelmingly popular across partisan lines, racial and ethnic groups, and income levels (all with at least seven in ten supporting the health care tax credits).

In 2021, Congress passed health care tax credits, lowering the cost of health insurance for millions of Americans who have to buy insurance on their own. Do you support or oppose these health care tax credits?





## Three in Four Want to See Congress Extend Health Care Tax Credits Instead of Letting Them Expire

Majorities of independents (71%) and Republicans (63%) want to see Congress extend these health care tax credits.

These health care tax credits will expire at the end of 2025 unless Congress extends them. Do you think Congress should extend these health care tax credits or let these health care tax credits expire?





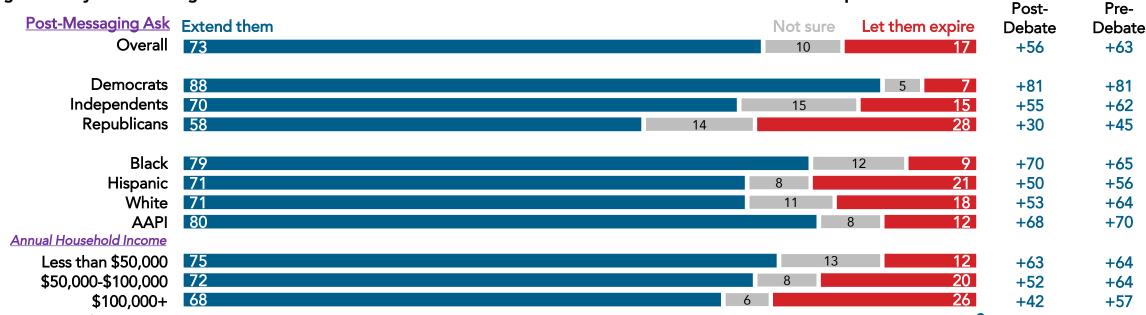
# Even After Hearing a Conservative Argument, a Broad Majority Still Want Congress to Extend the Health Care Tax Credits

Post-debate, 73% still support extending them; Republicans (from net +45 support to net +30) and Americans earning more than \$100,000 a year (from net +57 to net +42) move the most against the credits, but even then, majorities of both groups still support extending them.

<u>Supporters</u> say that taking away these tax credits will drive up health insurance premiums by more than 50% a year, driving premiums up by \$2,400 for working families. That cost hike will mean 5 million Americans lose their coverage completely. People are already struggling with the high cost of health care, and Congress shouldn't make it harder by taking away these tax credits: they should extend them, instead.

Opponents say it's fine to take away these tax credits because they are just more bloated government spending that makes the government pick up the bill for people's health care. The tax credits add nearly \$34 billion to the federal deficit every year, and they are riddled with waste and fraud where people lie about their income to qualify for them. These tax credits should not be renewed, and Congress should let them expire.







**Net Extend** 

# Members of Congress Who Extend Health Care Tax Credits Are Viewed Favorably; Those Who Let Them Expire, Unfavorably

A majority (54%) would be less favorable to members of Congress who let these tax credits expire, including 52% of independents.

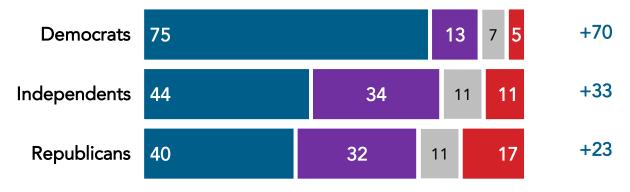
[Split Sample] If your member of Congress supported extending these health care tax credits, would it make you more favorable to them, less favorable to them, or would it make no difference?

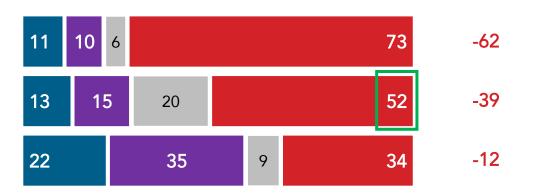
More No Not Net More favorable difference sure Less favorable Favorable

56 24 9 11 +45

[Split Sample] If your member of Congress supported letting these health care tax credits expire, would it make you more favorable to them, less favorable to them, or would it make no difference?

More favorable			No difference		Less favorable	Net More Favorable
	16	22	8		54	-38







Overall

# Most Concerning on Loss of These Tax Credits: Loss of Coverage, Including for Pre-Existing Conditions, and Higher Costs

Loss of coverage is most concerning to 53% of independents and 51% of those earning less than \$50,000 a year in household income.

Below is a list of potential consequences if these health care tax credits were to expire. Which of the following do you find most concerning, if any?

	% most concerning	Dem	Ind	Rep	<\$50K <u>Annual F</u>	\$100K lousehold l	•
5 million Americans would lose health care coverage	49%	58	53	38	51	48	43
Americans with pre-existing conditions like cancer and heart disease will be unable to afford care	45	53	42	38	47	42	44
Health care costs would increase by an average of \$2,400 per year for millions of families	37	42	35	33	35	40	40
Health care premiums would increase for more than 24 million Americans	35	36	37	33	32	36	39
Nearly 300,000 jobs could be lost nationwide, including from hospitals and pharmacies		31	23	21	25	25	31
Health care premiums would increase for more than 3 million small business owners and self-employed workers	17	15	11	20	17	18	15
Black and Latino Americans would disproportionately lose health care coverage	17	25	15	8	19	15	13
States will lose significant amounts of economic output and tax revenue	9	9	8	10	9	8	15

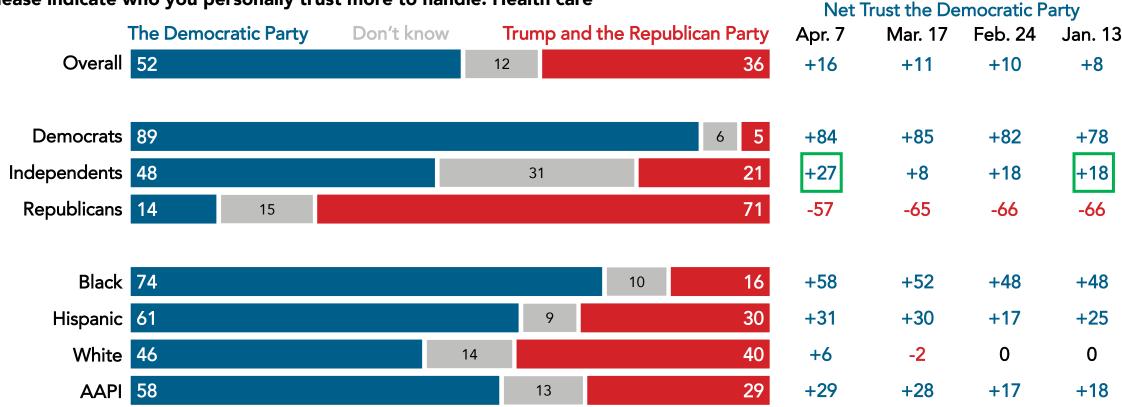
Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted April 3-April 7, 2025. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.



### A Growing Majority of Americans Trust Democrats More to Handle Health Care

Since January, the Democratic Party has grown more trusted to handle health care by a net 8 points (from net +8 trust more to net +16) overall and by a net 9 points among independents (from net +18 to net +27).

#### Please indicate who you personally trust more to handle: Health care







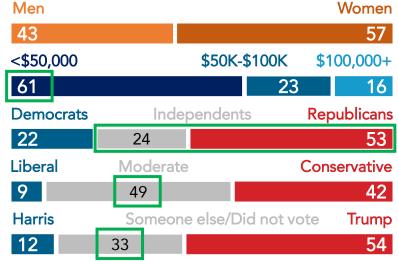
## Still, More Than One in Ten Are Not Sure Whether to Trust Democrats or Trump & Republicans More on Health Care

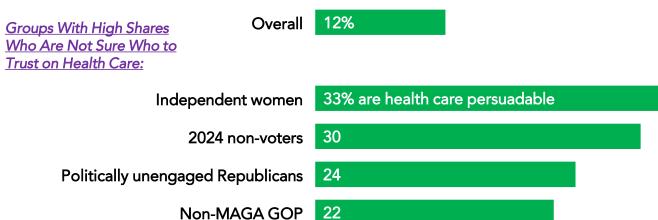
More than one in ten (12%) Americans are not sure of who to trust more on the issue of health care. This group is disproportionately comprised of those in households earning less than \$50,000 a year (61%, compared to 52% of Americans overall), independents (24%, compared to 10%), moderates (49%, compared to 35%), and 2024 third-party/non-voters (33%, compared to 14%).

#### Health Care Persuadables (12% of Americans):

Please indicate who you personally trust more to handle each one (the Democratic Party or Trump and the Republican Party): Health care. Not sure







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Moderates

Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted April 3-April 7, 2025. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.



#### About Navigator

In a world where the news cycle is the length of a tweet, our leaders often lack the real-time public-sentiment analysis to shape the best approaches to talking about the issues that matter the most. Navigator is designed to act as a consistent, flexible, responsive tool to inform policy debates by conducting research and reliable guidance to inform allies, elected leaders, and the press. Navigator is a project led by pollsters from Global Strategy Group and GBAO along with an advisory committee, including: Jessica Floyd, The Hub Project; Christina Reynolds; Mike Podhorzer; Jesse Ferguson, progressive strategist; Navin Nayak, Center for American Progress Action Fund; Stephanie Valencia, EquisLabs; and Melanie Newman, Planned Parenthood Action Fund.

#### About the Study

Global Strategy Group conducted a public opinion survey among a sample of 1,000 registered voters from April 3-April 7, 2025. 100 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 75 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among independent voters. The survey was conducted online, recruiting respondents from an opt-in online panel vendor. Respondents were verified against a voter file and special care was taken to ensure the demographic composition of our sample matched that of the national registered voter population across a variety of demographic variables. The margin of error for the full sample at the 95 percent level of confidence is +/- 3.1 percentage points. The margin of error for subgroups varies and is higher.

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### To learn more about Navigator:

http://navigatorresearch.org

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