

Topline

KFF Health Tracking Poll

May 2025

KFF

METHODOLOGY

This *KFF Health Tracking Poll* was designed and analyzed by public opinion researchers at KFF. The survey was conducted May 5 – 26, 2025, online and by telephone among a nationally representative sample of 2,539 U.S. adults in English (2,444) and Spanish (95).

The sample includes 2,028 adults who were reached through an address-based sample (ABS) and completed the survey online (1,802) or over the phone (226). An additional 511 respondents were reached through a random digit dial telephone (RDD) sample of prepaid (pay-as-you-go) cell phone numbers. Among this prepaid cell phone component, 260 were invited to the web survey via short message service (SMS) while another 251 were interviewed by phone (CATI). Marketing Systems Groups (MSG) provided both the ABS and RDD sample. All fieldwork was managed by SSRS of Glen Mills, PA; sampling design and weighting was done in collaboration with KFF.

Both ABS and RDD samples were stratified to increase the likelihood of reaching certain populations. Both the ABS and RDD sample frames included disproportionate stratification aimed at reaching Hispanic and non-Hispanic Black respondents. The ABS was also stratified based on model-based prediction of household-members' party identification (Republican, Democratic, or independent).

Respondents received a \$15 incentive for their participation, with interviews completed by phone receiving a mailed check and web respondents receiving a \$15 electronic gift card incentive. The online questionnaire included two questions designed to establish that respondents were paying attention and cases were monitored for data quality including item non-response, mean length, and straight lining. Cases were removed from the data if they failed two or more of these quality checks. Based on this criterion, four cases were removed.

The combined ABS and cell phone samples were weighted to match the sample's demographics to the national U.S. adult population using data from three sources: the Census Bureau's 2024 Current Population Survey (CPS), the 2021 Census Planning Database, and the 2023 National Public Opinion Reference Survey (NPORS) data. The demographic variables used for weighting include gender by age, gender by education, age by education, race/ethnicity by education, education, race, census region, population density, and frequency of internet usage. The weights also take into account differences in the probability of selection for each sample type (ABS and prepaid cell phone). This includes adjustment for the sample design and geographic stratification of the samples, and within household probability of selection.

The margin of sampling error including the design effect for the full sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points. Numbers of respondents and margins of sampling error for key subgroups are shown in the table below. For results based on other subgroups, the margin of sampling error may be higher. Sample sizes and margins of sampling error for other subgroups are available by request. Sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error and there may be other unmeasured error in this or any other public opinion poll. The Medicaid and health care costs module included in this survey was designed, analyzed, and paid for by KFF. The demographic questions included in this study were developed and funded jointly by CNN and KFF as part of an unrelated project, with each organization having independent editorial control over its portion of the survey. KFF Public Opinion and Survey Research is a charter member of the [Transparency Initiative of the American Association for Public Opinion Research](#).

Group	N (unweighted)	M.O.S.E.
Total	2,539	± 3 percentage points
Party ID		
Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents	1,102	± 4 percentage points
Pure independents	388	± 7 percentage points
Total Republicans and Republican-leaning independents	886	± 4 percentage points
MAGA Republicans and Republican-leaning independents	625	± 5 percentage points
Health Insurance Coverage		
Adults enrolled in Medicaid, ages 18-64	454	± 6 percentage points
Adults who have purchased their own health coverage, ages 18-64	247	± 9 percentage points
Adults enrolled in Medicare, ages 65 and older	411	± 7 percentage points

Notes for reading the topline:

- Percentages may not always add up to 100 percent due to rounding.
- Values less than 0.5 percent are indicated by an asterisk (*).
- “Vol.” indicates a response was volunteered by the respondent, not offered as an explicit choice.
- Questions are presented in the order asked; question numbers may not be sequential.
- “No answer” includes those who said ‘Don’t know’ or refused to answer the question on the phone and those who skipped the question on the web.
- Question wording shown is for web mode; for some questions phone wording varies slightly.

Trended data prior to July 2022 were conducted using RDD methods. See footnotes for changes in question wording, and answer options when applicable. See previous methodology statements for differences in methodology for trended data.

All trends shown in this document come from KFF Health Tracking except:

8/23: KFF Survey on Racism, Discrimination, and Health (June 6 – August 14, 2023)

COVERAGE. Are you now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan or do you not have health insurance at this time?

	6/24
Covered by health insurance	89
Not covered by health insurance	10
No answer	*
	<i>n=2,428</i>

AGE/COVERAGE Combo table based on adults ages 18-64

	6/24
Insured less than 65	87
Uninsured less than 65	13
No answer	-
	<i>n=1,809</i>

COVTYPE. Which of the following is your **main** source of health insurance coverage? Is it a plan through your employer, a plan through your spouse's employer, a plan you purchased yourself either from an insurance company or a state or federal marketplace, are you covered by Medicare or (Medicaid/[INSERT STATE-SPECIFIC MEDICAID NAME]), or do you get your health insurance from somewhere else? [INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF R SAYS THEY GOT INSURANCE THROUGH HEALTHCARE.GOV, OBAMACARE, OR A STATE HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE/EXCHANGE, CODE AS 3].

Based on those who are insured

	6/24
Plan through my or my spouse's employer	41
Plan I purchased myself	10
Medicare, the government program for adults 65 and older, and some younger adults with long-term disabilities	24
Medicaid/[STATE-SPECIFIC MEDICAID NAME], the government program for certain low-income adults and children	16
Plan through my parents/mother/father	6
Military	1
Somewhere else (specify)	1
No answer	*
	<i>n=2,190</i>

KQ1. How worried, if at all, are you about being able to afford each of the following for you and your family? (RANDOMIZE ITEMS A-G; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1)

Item a based on those who are insured

	Very/ Somewhat worried (NET)	Very worried	Somewhat worried	Not too/Not at all worried (NET)	Not too worried	Not at all worried	No answer	
a. Your monthly health insurance premium								
5/25	37	13	24	54	29	34	*	n=2,268
2/24	48	21	27	51	28	23	*	n=1,175
7/22	40	16	24	60	31	29	*	n=1,655
3/22	36	12	23	64	30	34	-	n=1,133
2/20	40	18	22	57	24	34	*	n=1,084
8/18	42	18	24	57	25	32	*	n=1,052
b. The cost of health care services [If insured: including out-of-pocket costs not covered by health insurance, such as co-pays and deductibles you pay before insurance kicks in]								
5/25	51	22	28	52	23	26	*	n=2,539
2/24	73	39	35	27	16	11	*	n=1,309
c. Your rent or mortgage								
5/25	51	22	28	52	23	26	*	n=2,539
2/24	58	35	23	42	18	24	*	n=1,309
7/22	51	28	23	49	22	27	*	n=1,847
3/22	43	21	21	57	25	33	-	n=1,243
2/20	42	18	24	56	20	36	*	n=1,207
8/18	41	22	19	57	21	35	*	n=1,201
d. Gasoline or other transportation costs								
5/25	50	18	32	63	31	20	*	n=2,539
2/24	65	31	34	34	21	13	*	n=1,309
7/22	76	44	32	23	14	9	1	n=1,847
3/22	71	40	31	29	15	14	-	n=1,243
2/20	40	15	26	59	26	32	*	n=1,207
8/18	46	20	26	53	25	28	*	n=1,201
e. Food								
5/25	49	20	28	58	30	22	*	n=2,539
2/24	62	35	27	38	20	17	*	n=1,309
7/22	61	32	29	39	22	17	-	n=1,847
3/22	47	19	28	53	28	25	-	n=1,243
2/20	34	17	18	65	24	41	*	n=1,207
8/18	36	17	20	64	25	38	*	n=1,201

KQ1 continued...

	Very/ Somewhat worried (NET)	Very worried	Somewhat worried	Not too/Not at all worried (NET)	Not too worried	Not at all worried	No answer	
f. Your monthly utilities like electricity or heat								
5/25	49	20	30	59	30	21	*	n=2,539
2/24	64	35	29	36	21	15	*	n=1,309
7/22	62	33	29	38	22	17	*	n=1,847
3/22	50	23	27	50	29	22	-	n=1,243
2/20	38	16	22	61	26	34	*	n=1,207
8/18	43	19	24	57	27	30	*	n=1,201
g. Unexpected medical bills								
5/25	61	30	31	55	24	14	*	n=2,539
2/24	74	45	29	26	18	8	*	n=1,309
7/22	64	32	31	36	24	12	*	n=1,847
3/22	58	25	32	42	26	16	-	n=1,243
2/20	65	35	30	34	17	17	*	n=1,207
8/18	67	38	29	32	16	16	*	n=1,201

KQ2. In the past 12 months, have you or a family member living with you (INSERT ITEM)? (ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS)

	Yes	No	No answer
a. had problems paying for food, housing, transportation, or other necessities	32	68	*
b. had problems paying for health care	23	77	*

KQ3. In general, how (easy) or (difficult) is it for you to afford your health care costs? (ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1)

	3/22	5/25
Very/Somewhat easy (NET)	53	56
Very easy	16	18
Somewhat easy	37	38
Somewhat/Very difficult (NET)	47	44
Somewhat difficult	31	33
Very difficult	16	11
No answer	*	*
	n=2,375	n=2,539

KQ4. In the past 12 months, have you skipped or postponed getting the health care you needed because of the cost?

	8/23	5/25
Yes	25	36
No	75	64
No answer	*	*
	n=6,292	n=2,539

KQ5. Did your health get worse because you didn't get care or postponed care?

Based on those who skipped care

	5/25
Yes	51
No	49
No answer	*
	<i>n=945</i>

KQ4/KQ5 COMBO TABLE.

Based on total

	5/25
Yes, skipped or postponed care due to cost	36
Yes, health got worse	18
No, no health did not get worse	17
No, did not skip or postpone care due to cost	64
No answer	*
	<i>n=945</i>

RX. Do you currently take any prescription medicine, or not?

	5/25
Yes	61
No	38
No answer	*

RXMANY. Do you currently take any prescription medicine, or not?

Based on those who currently take any prescription medicine

	5/25
1	19
2	20
3	15
4	11
5	10
6	8
7	4
8	3
9	2
10	3
11 or more	4
No answer	1
	<i>n=1,608</i>

RXMANY_TOT

Based on total

	5/25
1-3 (NET)	33
1	11
2	12
3	9
4 or more (NET)	28
4	7
5	6
6	5
7	3
8	2
9	1
10	2
11 or more	2
Do not currently take any prescription medicine	38
No answer	1
	<i>n=2,539</i>

KQ6. In the past 12 months, have you (INSERT ITEM) because of the cost, or not? (RANDOMIZE ITEMS A-C)

	Yes	No	No answer	
a. Not filled a prescription for a medicine				
7/23	21	79	*	<i>n=1,327</i>
5/25	21	79	*	<i>n=2,539</i>
b. Cut pills in half or skipped doses of medicine				
7/23	12	87	*	<i>n=1,327</i>
5/25	15	85	*	<i>n=2,539</i>
c. Taken an over-the-counter drug instead of getting a prescription filled				
7/23	21	79	*	<i>n=1,327</i>
5/25	23	77	*	<i>n=2,539</i>

SHOW TO ALL: Moving on to another topic...

KQ7. Do you think the Trump administration's policies will (increase) or (decrease) your family's health care costs, or will they have no real impact? (ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES AND RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 IN SAME ORDER)

	5/25
Increase	50
Decrease	17
No impact	31
No answer	1

KQ8. Do you think the Trump administration's policies will strengthen, weaken, or have no real impact on each of the following? (RANDOMIZE ITEMS A-C IN SAME ORDER AS KQ2; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1)

	Strengthen	Weaken	No impact	No answer
a. Health care services for veterans	32	49	18	1
b. Medicare	23	57	20	1
c. Medicaid	19	59	21	2

d. Private health insurance	27	40	31	2
e. The U.S. economy overall	35	55	9	1

KQ9. If the federal government significantly reduces its spending on Medicaid, how worried are you that this would (INSERT ITEM)? (RANDOMIZE ITEMS A-C; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1)

	Very/ Somewhat worried (NET)	Very worried	Somewhat worried	Not too/Not at all worried (NET)	Not too worried	Not at all worried	No answer
a. negatively impact your or your family's ability to get and pay for health care	54	29	26	45	23	23	*
b. negatively impact hospitals, nursing homes, and other health care providers in your community	71	42	28	29	17	12	*
c. lead to more adults and children becoming uninsured	72	46	25	28	16	12	*

PLEASE REFER TO CNN TOPLINE FOR CQ1 THROUGH CQ9.

SHOW TO ALL: We have just a few more questions for classification purposes.

AGE. What is your age?

AGE2. (ASK IF DON'T KNOW OR REFUSED AGE) Which of the following ranges best fits your age? (READ LIST)

AGE1 VARIABLE

Bases on total

	5/25
18-29	19
30-49	35
50-64	22
65+	22
No answer	2
	<i>n=2,539</i>

RGENDER. Do you describe yourself as a man, a woman, or in some other way?

	5/25
Man	47
Woman	51
Some other way	1
No answer	*

EDUC. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

	5/25
HS grad or less (NET)	36
Less than high school (Grades 1-8 or no formal schooling)	2
High school incomplete (Grades 9-11 or Grade 12 with no diploma)	6
High school graduate (Grade 12 with diploma or GED certificate)	29
Some college (NET)	27
Some college, no degree (includes some community college)	18
Two-year associate degree from a college or university	9
College grad+ (NET)	37
Four-year college or university degree/Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	20
Some postgraduate or professional schooling, no postgraduate degree	4
Post-graduate or professional degree, including master's, doctorate, medical or law degree (e.g., MA, MS, PhD, MD, JD)	14
No answer	*

HISPANIC. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin or descent, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, or Cuban?

	5/25
Yes	17
No	83
No answer	1

RACE. What is your race? (Select all that apply.)

	5/25
White	72
Black or African American	14
Asian	7
American Indian or Alaska Native	2
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1
Mixed race	*
Some other race (Specify)	5
No answer	2

HISPANIC/RACE Combined-RACETHN

	5/25
White, Non-Hispanic	60
Black, Non-Hispanic	12
Asian, Non-Hispanic	6
American Indian/Alaskan Native, Non-Hispanic	*
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	*
Some other race, Non-Hispanic	*
Multiple races, Non-Hispanic	2
Hispanic	17
Race undetermined	2

NATIVITY. Were you born in the United States, or on the island of Puerto Rico or another U.S. territory, or in another country?

	5/25
U.S. (NET)	86
U.S.	84
Puerto Rico	2
Another U.S. territory	*
Another country	14
No answer	*

PARTY1. In politics, as of today, do you consider yourself a: (Republican), a (Democrat), or an independent? (RANDOMIZE REPUBLICAN/DEMOCRAT)

	5/25
Republican	28
Democrat	27
Independent	36
Other party (Vol. on phone)	7
No answer	1

PARTY2. As of today, do you lean more towards the (Republican) Party or the (Democratic) Party?

Based on those who are not Republican or Democrat

	5/25
Republican	23
Democratic	28
Neither/Other (Vol. on phone)	47
No answer	2
	<i>n=1,145</i>

PARTY1/PARTY2 COMBO TABLE

	5/25
Republican/Lean Republican	38
Democrat/Lean Democrat	40
Pure independent	15
Undesignated	7

PARTY3. If you had to choose, as of today would you say you lean more towards the (Republican) Party or the (Democratic) Party?

Based on those who do not lean Republican or Democrat

	5/25
Republican	36
Democratic	50
No answer	14
	<i>n=551</i>

RVOTE. Are you registered to vote at your current address?

	5/25
Yes	77
No	16
Not sure (Vol. on phone)	7
No answer	*

PRES24_1. As you may know, almost 40% of the public does not vote in presidential elections. How about you, did you vote in the 2024 election for president between Kamala Harris and Donald Trump, or did you not have a chance to vote that time?

Based on those who are registered to vote

	5/25
Yes, did vote	86
No, did not vote	13
No answer	*
	<i>n=1,998</i>

PRES24_2. Which presidential candidate did you vote for in 2024?

Based on those who are registered to vote and say that they voted in the 2024 presidential election

	5/25
Kamala Harris	46
Donald Trump	47
Jill Stein	1
Chase Oliver	*
Another candidate	3
Did not vote in that election (Vol. on phone)	1
No answer	3
	<i>n=1,716</i>

RVOTE/PRES24_1/PRES24_2 COMBO

Based on total

	5/25
Voted for Harris	31
Voted for Trump	31
Voted for Other/No opinion (NET)	4
Voted for another candidate	2
Voted, no opinion	2
Registered to vote, did not vote for president	11
No, not registered to vote/DK	23
	<i>n=2,539</i>

IDEOLOGY. How would you describe your political views?

	5/25
Liberal	23
Moderate	43
Conservative	32
No answer	2

MAGA1. Do you consider yourself to be a supporter of the MAGA movement, that is the Make America Great Again movement?

Based on those who are Republican or lean Republican

	5/25
Yes	74
No	25
No answer	1
	<i>n=886</i>

GV2. In the past 12 months, how often did you read, watch, or listen to news or information about political, societal, or local issues?

	5/25
Basically every day	40
A few times a week/month/once a month (NET)	46
A few times a week	26
A few times a month	15
Once a month	4
Less than once a month/Not at all	14
Less than once a month	7
Not at all	7
No answer	*

TRANSVAR. Do you currently describe yourself as trans or transgender?

	5/25
Yes	1
No	99
No answer	1

LGBTQ. Do you currently describe yourself as: (Select all that apply.)

	5/25
Lesbian or gay	3
Bisexual	4
Straight or heterosexual	88
I use another term	3
No answer	2

LGBTQ_TOT VARIABLE

Based on total

	5/25
LGBTQ	10
Not LGBTQ/No answer	90
	<i>n=2,539</i>

RELIMP. How important is religion in your life?

	5/25
Very/Somewhat important (NET)	69
Very important	43
Somewhat important	25
Not too/Not at all important (NET)	31
Not too important	16
Not at all important	15
No answer	*

RELIGN. What is your religious preference, if any?

	5/25
Protestant	38
Catholic/Roman Catholic	22
Mormon	1
Orthodox	1
Jewish	2
Muslim	1
Buddhist	1
Hindu	1
Atheist	5
Agnostic	5
Nothing in particular	15
Something else (specify)	8
No answer	1

BORNAGN. Would you describe yourself as a born-again or evangelical Christian?

	5/25
Yes	27
No	72
No answer	1

CHILD18. Do you personally have any children under age 18?

	5/25
Yes	31
No	69
No answer	1

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

	5/25
Married	47
Living with a partner	12
Widowed	6
Divorced	9
Separated	2
Never been married	23
No answer	1

SELFUSR. How would you describe the area where you live? Would you say you live in...

	5/25
A city or urban area	40
A suburb	34
A rural area	24
Or something else (specify)	1
No answer	1

EMPLOY. Which of the following best describes your current situation?

	5/25
Employed full-time	45
Employed part-time	11
Retired	21
A stay-at-home parent or homemaker	6
A student	3
Unemployed but looking for work	7
Unemployed and not looking for work	1
On disability and can't work	6
No answer	*
	<i>n=2,539</i>

RECEMPLOY VARIABLE

Based on total

	5/25
Employed	56
Retired	21
A homemaker or stay at home parent	6
Student	3
Unemployed	7
On disability and can't work	6
No answer	*
	<i>n=2,539</i>

INCOME. Keeping in mind this is a completely confidential survey, last year – that is, in 2023 – what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes?

	5/25
Less than \$20,000	16
\$20,000 to less than \$30,000	12
\$30,000 to less than \$40,000	10
\$40,000 to less than \$50,000	8
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	13
\$75,000 to less than \$90,000	8
\$90,000 to less than \$100,000	7
\$100,000 to less than \$200,000	16
\$200,000 or more	8
No answer	4

INT1. Do you use the internet or email, at least occasionally?

	5/25
Yes	97
No	3
No answer	*

INT3. Do you access the internet on a cell phone, or other mobile handheld device, at least occasionally?

Based on those who do not use the internet or email – insufficient n size to report

INT5. About how often do you use the internet?

Based on those who use the internet at least occasionally

	5/25
Almost constantly	44
Several times a day	43
About once a day	6
Several times a week	4
Less often	3
No answer	*
	<i>n=2,498</i>

HHADULTS. How many adults, age 18 and over, currently live in your household including yourself?

	5/25
1	19
2	49
3	18
4	8
5	3
6 or greater	1
No answer	2



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