

These tables are supplemental to a Commonwealth Fund publication, *What Do Likely Voters Think About Their Health Care?* NBC News/Commonwealth Fund Health Care Poll, Feb. 2020, available on the Fund's website at: <https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/2020/feb/what-do-likely-voters-think-about-their-health-care>.

Thinking about your health care in the next 12 months, how worried, if at all, are you about your ability . . .

Base: Adults age 18+ who are likely voters

	To afford your health care?					To get high-quality health care?				
	Very/moderately worried	Very worried	Moderately worried	A little worried	Not at all worried	Very/moderately worried	Very worried	Moderately worried	A little worried	Not at all worried
Percent distribution	23%	11%	11%	22%	55%	24%	10%	14%	20%	57%
Gender										
Male	22	11	10	21	57	23	9	14	18	59
Female	24	12	12	24	53	24	10	14	21	54
Age										
18–64	25	12	12	25	50	26	10	15	22	52
18–25	19	10	10	26	54	26	6	20	18	55
26–34	21	10	10	27	53	20	7	13	31	49
35–49	24	8	16	26	50	25	9	16	25	50
50–64	28	17	11	23	48	28	14	14	17	55
65+	18	9	8	14	68	18	8	10	13	69
Political affiliation										
Democrat	26	14	12	24	49	28	11	16	22	50
Leaning Democrat	32	19	13	29	39	30	15	15	26	43
Republican	18	8	9	19	64	19	7	11	15	66
Leaning Republican	14	8	7	19	67	12	4	8	18	71
Race/Ethnicity										
White	19	9	10	24	57	22	7	14	20	58
Black	26	14	12	25	49	29	16	13	19	52
Hispanic	34	18	16	18	48	35	17	18	19	45
Annual income										
<\$50,000	30	18	12	24	46	31	15	16	21	47
\$50,000+	17	7	10	21	61	18	6	12	19	63
Insurance status										
Insured	23	11	12	26	51	24	8	15	22	54
Uninsured	37	26	11	18	45	43	29	14	17	39

NOTES

Likely voters include adults who said they would “definitely” vote in the 2020 election for president this November.

Adults who reported they considered themselves an “Independent,” “Other,” or reported “Don’t know/refused” were then asked if they lean more toward the Democratic or Republican Party.

“Independent,” “Other,” and “Don’t know/refused” categories are not listed.

Insurance status reflects adults ages 18–64.

DATA

NBC News/Commonwealth Fund Health Care Poll, Feb. 2020.

Thinking just about your health care costs over the next 12 months, how worried, if at all, are you about . . .

Base: Adults age 18+ who are likely voters

	The amount you will have to pay for your insurance, including premiums and deductibles?					The amount you will have to pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs?				
	Very/moderately worried	Very worried	Moderately worried	A little worried	Not at all worried	Very/moderately worried	Very worried	Moderately worried	A little worried	Not at all worried
Percent distribution	31%	16%	15%	23%	45%	29%	16%	13%	23%	47%
Gender										
Male	29	16	14	21	49	25	13	11	21	54
Female	32	16	16	25	42	33	18	15	26	42
Age										
18–64	32	16	16	25	42	30	16	15	25	44
18–25	27	14	13	33	40	32	12	20	23	45
26–34	24	10	13	30	45	25	10	16	25	48
35–49	32	16	16	27	40	30	15	15	28	42
50–64	38	21	18	20	41	32	20	12	24	44
65+	26	15	11	17	57	25	16	9	19	57
Political affiliation										
Democrat	33	17	16	27	39	33	18	15	28	39
Leaning Democrat	38	22	17	30	31	37	19	18	23	39
Republican	25	15	10	18	57	25	12	12	18	57
Leaning Republican	27	11	16	23	49	22	14	8	22	56
Race/Ethnicity										
White	28	14	15	25	47	26	14	12	24	50
Black	36	23	13	21	44	31	21	10	27	42
Hispanic	44	23	21	23	33	44	22	23	18	37
Annual income										
<\$50,000	38	22	17	24	38	38	21	17	22	40
\$50,000+	26	13	13	24	50	23	12	11	25	52
Insurance status										
Insured	31	15	16	27	43	29	15	14	26	45
Uninsured	49	30	19	16	32	45	26	19	18	36

NOTES

Likely voters include adults who said they would “definitely” vote in the 2020 election for president this November.

Adults who reported they considered themselves an “Independent,” “Other,” or reported “Don’t know/refused” were then asked if they lean more toward the Democratic or Republican Party.

“Independent,” “Other,” and “Don’t know/refused” categories are not listed.

Insurance status reflects adults ages 18–64.

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NBC News/Commonwealth Fund Health Care Poll, Feb. 2020.

Thinking just about your health care costs over the next 12 months, how worried, if at all, are you about . . .

Base: Adults age 18+ who are likely voters

	The amount you will have to pay out-of-pocket when you get health care, not including prescription drugs?					The cost of long-term care like home care or nursing home care for yourself or family members?				
	Very/moderately worried	Very worried	Moderately worried	A little worried	Not at all worried	Very/moderately worried	Very worried	Moderately worried	A little worried	Not at all worried
Percent distribution	32%	16%	16%	24%	43%	33%	18%	14%	23%	44%
Gender										
Male	29	15	14	22	48	29	16	12	24	47
Female	34	18	17	26	39	36	20	16	21	42
Age										
18–64	35	18	17	27	38	33	19	14	23	43
18–25	32	14	18	29	37	31	18	13	21	48
26–34	34	11	23	27	38	30	18	12	30	40
35–49	33	18	14	30	37	32	16	16	23	44
50–64	37	21	16	24	39	37	23	13	22	41
65+	24	13	11	16	59	31	16	15	20	48
Political affiliation										
Democrat	35	18	17	27	37	38	22	16	26	36
Leaning Democrat	47	23	24	19	34	44	26	18	15	41
Republican	25	13	12	22	51	24	13	12	22	53
Leaning Republican	24	13	11	24	52	26	14	13	25	47
Race/Ethnicity										
White	29	14	15	25	45	31	17	15	24	44
Black	35	24	12	20	43	37	26	11	23	40
Hispanic	42	25	18	26	32	41	25	15	19	40
Annual income										
<\$50,000	40	21	18	23	37	40	24	15	20	40
\$50,000+	27	13	14	25	47	29	15	14	23	47
Insurance status										
Insured	33	16	17	28	39	33	19	14	24	43
Uninsured	49	31	18	19	32	39	23	16	21	40

NOTES

Likely voters include adults who said they would “definitely” vote in the 2020 election for president this November.

Adults who reported they considered themselves an “Independent,” “Other,” or reported “Don’t know/refused” were then asked if they lean more toward the Democratic or Republican Party.

“Independent,” “Other,” and “Don’t know/refused” categories are not listed.

Insurance status reflects adults ages 18–64.

DATA

NBC News/Commonwealth Fund Health Care Poll, Feb. 2020.

Over the next 12 months, how worried, if at all, are you about . . .

Base: Adults age 18+ who are likely voters

	Receiving an unexpected or surprise medical bill?				
	Very/moderately worried	Very worried	Moderately worried	A little worried	Not at all worried
Percent distribution	28%	14%	15%	27%	45%
Gender					
Male	25	13	13	25	49
Female	31	14	17	28	41
Age					
18–64	30	14	16	28	42
18–25	22	13	9	30	48
26–34	29	11	19	33	37
35–49	30	14	16	28	41
50–64	32	15	17	25	42
65+	25	13	11	23	52
Political affiliation					
Democrat	34	17	17	28	38
Leaning Democrat	36	17	18	31	33
Republican	24	11	13	24	52
Leaning Republican	19	9	10	27	54
Race/Ethnicity					
White	25	11	14	30	44
Black	38	20	18	18	44
Hispanic	37	21	16	22	40
Annual income					
<\$50,000	35	18	17	23	42
\$50,000+	23	9	14	30	46
Insurance status					
Insured	28	13	15	29	43
Uninsured	44	25	19	20	36

NOTES

Likely voters include adults who said they would “definitely” vote in the 2020 election for president this November.

Adults who reported they considered themselves an “Independent,” “Other,” or reported “Don’t know/refused” were then asked if they lean more toward the Democratic or Republican Party.

“Independent,” “Other,” and “Don’t know/refused” categories are not listed.

Insurance status reflects adults ages 18–64.

DATA

NBC News/Commonwealth Fund Health Care Poll, Feb. 2020.

Medical bill and delay of care because of cost problems

Base: Adults age 18+ who are likely voters and responded "yes"

During the past two years, were there times when you had problems paying or were unable to pay for medical bills?

In the past 12 months, was there any time when you had a medical problem but did not go to a doctor or clinic because of the cost?

In the past 12 months, did a health problem of yours or a close family member^ get worse because you/they delayed getting health care or taking a medication you/they needed because of the cost?

Percent distribution	20%	16%	22%
Gender			
Male	16	16	18
Female	23	17	25
Age			
18–64	22	18	24
18–25	27	24	32
26–34	19	23	31
35–49	17	18	22
50–64	25	15	20
65+	14	10	17
Political affiliation			
Democrat	22	13	22
Leaning Democrat	21	24	29
Republican	19	16	18
Leaning Republican	18	16	24
Race/Ethnicity			
White	18	16	21
Black	23	12	13
Hispanic	26	20	30
Annual income			
<\$50,000	30	22	29
\$50,000+	13	13	18
Insurance status			
Insured	19	16	23
Uninsured	43	40	34

NOTES

Likely voters include adults who said they would "definitely" vote in the 2020 election for president this November.

Adults who reported they considered themselves an "Independent," "Other," or reported "Don't know/refused" were then asked if they lean more toward the Democratic or Republican Party.

"Independent," "Other," and "Don't know/refused" categories are not listed.

^ Close family members include a spouse/partner, child, sibling, or parent.

Insurance status reflects adults ages 18–64.

DATA

NBC News/Commonwealth Fund Health Care Poll, Feb. 2020.

During the past two years, did you have to do any of the following in order to pay for any medical bills?

Base: Adults age 18+ who are likely voters, reported having problems paying or were unable to pay for medical bills over the past two years, and responded "yes"

	Take on credit card debt or take out a loan of any kind?	Borrow money from a friend or family member?	Raise money through fundraising such as crowdfunding or a "Go Fund Me" effort?	Sell personal items like jewelry or furniture?	Use any of your savings, including taking money out of a retirement fund?
Percent distribution	34%	46%	7%	26%	46%
Gender					
Male	34	45	10	20	43
Female	33	48	5	29	47
Age					
18–64	33	50	7	25	43
65+	—	—	—	—	—
Political affiliation					
Democrat/Leaning Democrat	36	51	8	28	54
Republican/Leaning Republican	30	44	7	25	34
Annual income					
<\$50,000	31	53	8	31	42
\$50,000+	39	41	5	21	49

NOTES

Likely voters include adults who said they would "definitely" vote in the 2020 election for president this November.

Adults who reported they considered themselves an "Independent," "Other," or reported "Don't know/refused" were then asked if they lean more toward the Democratic or Republican Party.

"Independent," "Other," and "Don't know/refused" categories are not listed.

— Sample size <100.

DATA

NBC News/Commonwealth Fund Health Care Poll, Feb. 2020.

Based on what you are hearing from candidates running for president in 2020 . . .

Base: Adults age 18+ who are likely voters

	If the next president is a Democrat, how confident are you that they will work to make your health care more affordable for you?						If President Trump is reelected, how confident are you that he will work to make your health care more affordable for you?					
	Very/somewhat confident	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not that/Not at all confident	Not that confident	Not at all confident	Very/somewhat confident	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not that/Not at all confident	Not that confident	Not at all confident
Percent distribution	54%	22%	31%	43%	12%	31%	42%	26%	16%	57%	15%	42%
Gender												
Male	48	22	26	48	11	37	47	30	17	51	13	38
Female	59	23	36	39	13	26	37	22	16	62	16	46
Age												
18–64	54	20	35	43	13	30	40	23	18	59	17	42
18–25	68	24	44	27	14	12	35	12	23	65	16	49
26–34	60	16	45	38	10	27	41	22	19	59	20	39
35–49	53	19	34	44	15	28	35	19	16	64	22	43
50–64	48	20	28	50	11	39	47	31	17	52	13	38
65+	51	29	21	46	9	37	46	34	12	51	7	44
Political affiliation												
Democrat	85	44	41	13	7	5	10	4	6	90	19	71
Leaning Democrat	84	30	54	13	9	4	12	3	9	87	18	69
Republican	19	5	14	79	15	63	85	60	25	15	8	7
Leaning Republican	25	5	20	73	14	59	70	42	28	29	14	14
Race/Ethnicity												
White	49	21	28	48	12	36	46	29	17	53	15	38
Black	74	34	40	26	12	14	20	10	11	78	14	64
Hispanic	64	24	40	29	15	14	33	14	19	67	19	48
Annual income												
<\$50,000	56	24	32	40	11	30	43	26	17	56	16	40
\$50,000+	53	21	32	45	14	31	41	24	17	58	15	43
Education												
High school diploma or less	48	24	24	50	10	39	50	36	14	49	12	37
Some college	53	17	36	43	13	30	44	22	22	54	17	38
4-year college degree or higher	58	24	34	39	12	27	34	20	14	65	16	50
Insurance status												
Insured	53	19	34	43	13	30	41	24	17	59	17	41
Uninsured	64	22	42	35	11	24	36	16	21	63	19	44

NOTES

Likely voters include adults who said they would “definitely” vote in the 2020 election for president this November.

Adults who reported they considered themselves an “Independent,” “Other,” or reported “Don’t know/refused” were then asked if they lean more toward the Democratic or Republican Party.

“Independent,” “Other,” and “Don’t know/refused” categories are not listed.

Insurance status reflects adults ages 18–64.

DATA

NBC News/Commonwealth Fund Health Care Poll, Feb. 2020.

Thinking about health care costs, how high of a priority should the next president make . . .

Base: Adults age 18+ who are likely voters and responded the following should be a high priority

	Reducing the amount people pay for health insurance, including premiums and deductibles?	Reducing the amount people pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs?	Reducing the amount people pay out-of-pocket for health care, not including prescription drugs?	Reducing the amount people pay for long-term care like home care or nursing home care?
Percent distribution	78%	79%	78%	73%
Gender				
Male	75	75	74	69
Female	80	83	81	77
Age				
18–64	79	80	79	74
18–25	85	80	80	74
26–34	79	77	79	75
35–49	75	79	79	71
50–64	80	82	79	77
65+	74	77	75	71
Political affiliation				
Democrat	84	86	85	80
Leaning Democrat	87	84	90	78
Republican	71	74	69	69
Leaning Republican	62	68	66	60
Race/Ethnicity				
White	77	80	78	74
Black	78	79	77	73
Hispanic	80	75	77	72
Annual income				
<\$50,000	82	80	80	76
\$50,000+	74	78	76	71
Insurance status				
Insured	80	81	80	74
Uninsured	70	74	71	72

NOTES

Likely voters include adults who said they would “definitely” vote in the 2020 election for president this November.

Adults who reported they considered themselves an “Independent,” “Other,” or reported “Don’t know/refused” were then asked if they lean more toward the Democratic or Republican Party.

“Independent,” “Other,” and “Don’t know/refused” categories are not listed.

Insurance status reflects adults ages 18–64.

DATA

NBC News/Commonwealth Fund Health Care Poll, Feb. 2020.

HOW WE CONDUCTED THIS STUDY

The NBC News/Commonwealth Fund Health Care Poll was conducted by SSRS from January 28 through February 16, 2020. The survey consisted of telephone interviews conducted among a random, nationally representative sample of 2,303 adults, age 18 and older, living in the United States, and included an oversample of African Americans and Hispanics. Overall, 686 interviews were completed via landline and 1,617 were conducted via mobile phone. For this analysis, the sample population was limited to adults who reported they would definitely vote in the 2020 presidential election (“likely voter”). The final sample size among likely voters was 1,594.

This is the first poll in a series to track public sentiment on a range of health care issues during the 2020 presidential election season. Data were collected through the SSRS Omnibus. The SSRS Omnibus uses a fully-replicated, stratified, single-stage, random-digit-dialing (RDD) sample of telephone households, and randomly generated cell phones.

Each SSRS Omnibus insert was weighted to provide nationally representative and projectable estimates of the adult population 18 years of age and older. The weighting process took into account the disproportionate probabilities of household and respondent selection because of the number of separate telephone landlines and cell phones answered by respondents and their households, as well as the probability associated with the random selection of an individual household member. The sample was poststratified and balanced by key demographics such as age, race, sex, region, and education. The sample was also weighted to reflect the distribution of phone usage in the general population, meaning the proportion of those who are cell phone only, landline only, and mixed users. The weighting procedures adjusted for the oversampling of African American and Hispanic respondents.

The margin of error is ± 2.4 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level. The landline portion of the survey achieved a 5.4 percent response rate and the cellular phone component achieved a 3.1 percent response rate. The overall response rate was 3.8 percent.