

Healthcare Questions

Overall area voters believe that changes to the health care system should be aimed at providing health care for all Americans before reducing the cost for the average American. They are willing to pay higher taxes to provide that health care program. Republicans and Democrats are polarized on the issue. Democrats and independents see Hillary Clinton as the candidate who will do the best job in fixing the problems with America's health care system.

Do you think the government should provide a health insurance program for all Americans, even if this would require higher taxes?

	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	DEM	REP	IND
Yes	66	66	65	82	39	63
No	28	28	28	12	54	33
DK/Not Sure	7	6	7	6	7	5

Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding

What should be the highest priority for the next President, keeping health care costs down for average Americans or providing health insurance for Americans who do not have any health insurance?

	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	DEM	REP	IND
Keeping costs down for average Americans	34	36	32	22	60	34
Providing insurance for Americans who do not have any	56	53	59	72	27	57
DK/Not Sure	10	11	9	7	13	10

Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding

Regardless of who you are voting for in the Presidential election which of the following candidate do you think will do the best job in fixing the problems with America's health care system. [READ LIST]

	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	DEM	REP	IND
Hillary Clinton	35	28	41	52	14	26
Barack Obama	12	15	10	14	4	15
Rudy Giuliani	12	10	14	3	30	10
John Edwards	11	14	8	14	3	13
John McCain	4	5	3	1	9	4
Fred Thompson	2	3	1	--	2	3
Mitt Romney	3	4	2	--	9	2
Mike Huckabee	1	2	1	--	2	3
DK/Not sure	21	20	22	15	26	25

Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding

Distribution of Sample

Baseline Sample Distribution

Gender:

Male	47%
Female	53%

Region

Westchester	70%
Rockland	23%
Putnam	7%

Race/Ethnicity

White (non-Hispanic)	75%
Black	12%
Hispanic	7%
Asian	2%
Other	4%

Party Identification (Self identification)

Democrat	44%
Republican (including 2% who volunteered conservative)	24%
Independent (including those who said Independence Party)	27%
Other	1%
DK/Not sure	3%

METHODOLOGY

This Manhattanville College poll was conducted by telephone interview with 502 residents who were 18 years of age or older and reside in Westchester, Rockland or Putnam counties. The residents were selected through a process of random digit dialing to ensure any resident with a phone would have an equal probability of being selected for the poll

The interviews were distributed throughout the counties using a geographic quota by zip code based on the US Census and weighting to ensure a representative sample of the three county area.

The margin of error for the poll was approximately +/- 4.5% at the 95% confidence interval for percentages at 50%. It decreases to +/- 2.7% for percentages at 10 or 90%. Margins of error increase for subgroups.

The poll was conducted January 2 - 5, 2008.