



PUBLIC ATTITUDES TOWARD OBAMACARE REPEAL

BELLWETHER STATE SURVEY | KEY FINDINGS

- ▶ In terms of importance to respondents, healthcare has returned to single-digit status (8%), far behind issues like national security/terrorism, jobs/economy and government dysfunction.
- ▶ However, the majority of respondents remain opposed to the Affordable Care Act (51% are opposed | 40% STRONGLY opposed).
- ▶ An identical 51% call Obamacare a “failure and should be repealed”, BUT...
 - By a margin of 2-to-1 respondents say Obamacare should be repealed “only when a replacement is ready” over repealing it “immediately”.
- ▶ Nearly 7 in 10 (69%) respondents say that a replacement for Obamacare should be enacted “immediately” after repeal.
 - This includes a majority of repeal supporters, very conservative Republicans and somewhat conservative Republicans.
- ▶ Respondents trust President Trump and Republicans in Congress over Democrats in Congress to draft the Obamacare replacement, by a 46% to 40% margin.
 - The margin is even wider among Independents, who trust President Trump and Republicans in Congress over Democrats by a 7-point margin.
- ▶ Respondents’ top priorities for replacing Obamacare center on healthcare costs:
 - Driving down costs
 - Making healthcare more affordable
 - Out-of-pocket costs
 - Cost of fraud
- ▶ The passion is around reducing costs rather than expanding coverage. While 87% say it’s VERY important to “make healthcare more affordable”, just 64% say it’s VERY important to “provide health coverage to more Americans than today”.
- ▶ Second-tier priorities are: promoting healthcare innovation and stability/control over healthcare decisions.
- ▶ Traditional Democratic audiences are the most likely to vote on healthcare in future elections; conservatives are less likely to vote on healthcare as they feel they have already voted for the changes they want.
- ▶ However, reflexive opposition is dangerous for Democrats; 66% of respondents are opposed to Democrats opposing all replacement plans offered, with nearly half of all respondents (49%) STRONGLY opposed.
 - Independents are driving this, with 70% opposed to Democrats opposing any replacement plan offered by Republicans.