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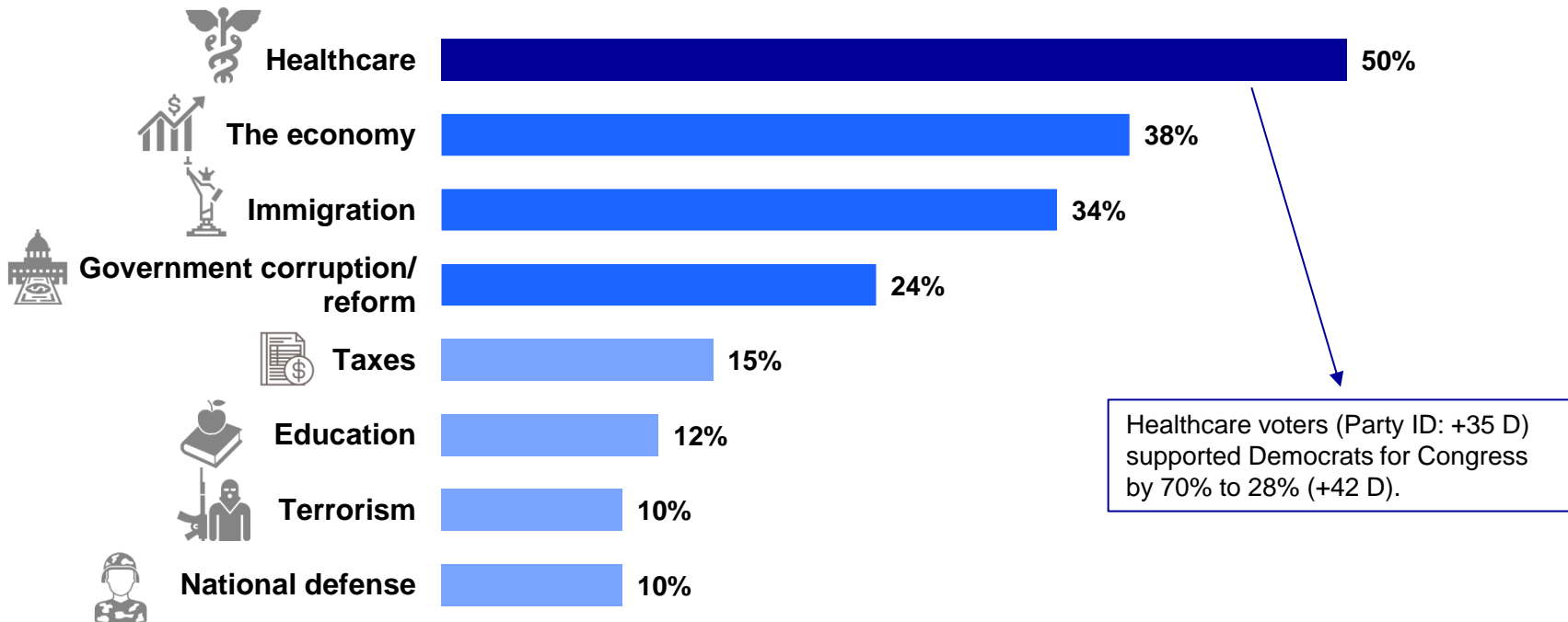
Winning on Healthcare in 2019:

*How Democrats can build on their success
in last year's Healthcare Election*

*Key findings from a survey among 1,002 voters nationwide
Conducted January 8 to 11, 2019*

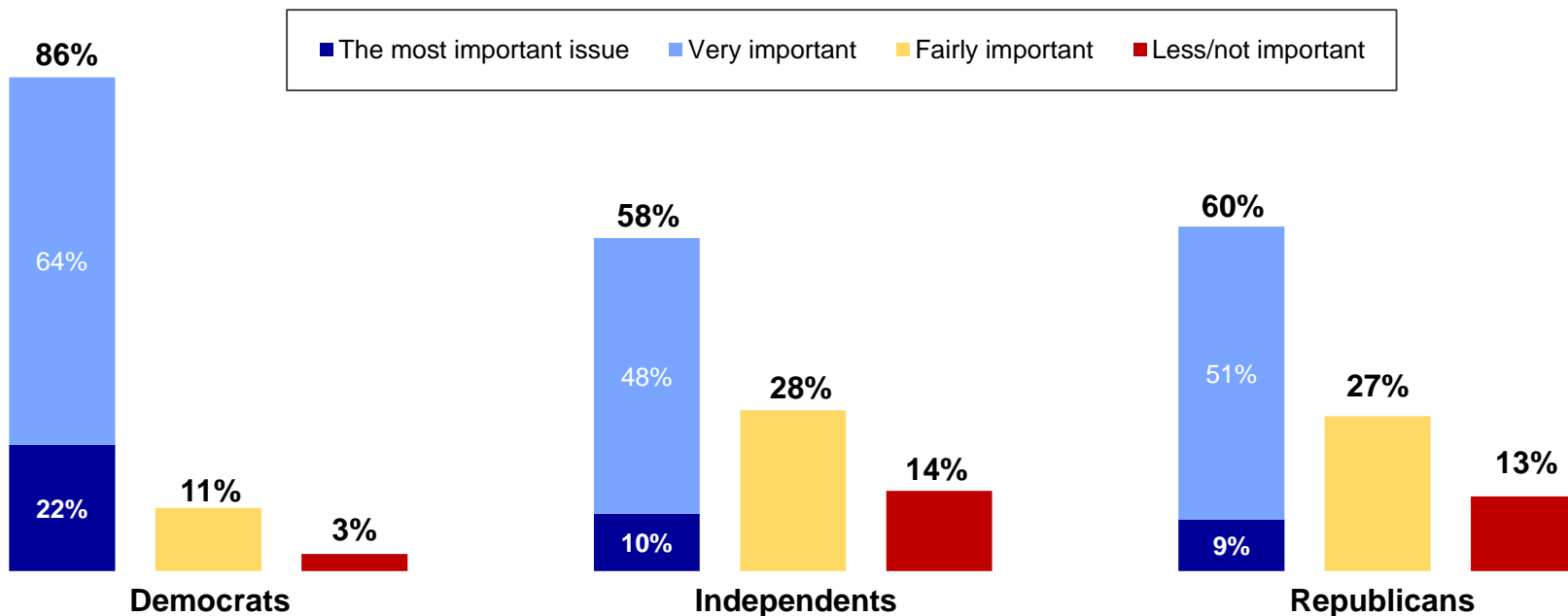
Healthcare was by far the top voting issue in 2018.

Which two of the following issues were the most important to you in deciding how to vote for Congress this past November?



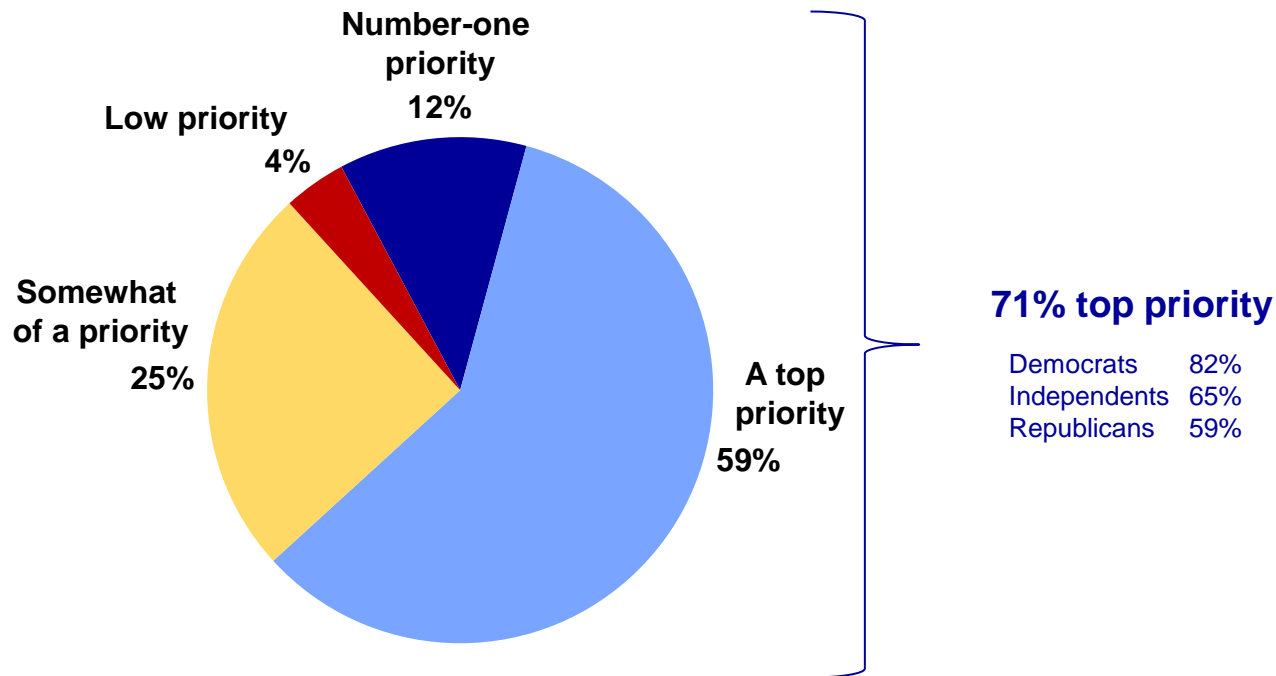
Majorities of voters across party lines said healthcare was a top consideration in their vote.

In deciding who to vote for in the elections for Congress this past November, how important to you were the candidates' stances on healthcare, compared with other issues?



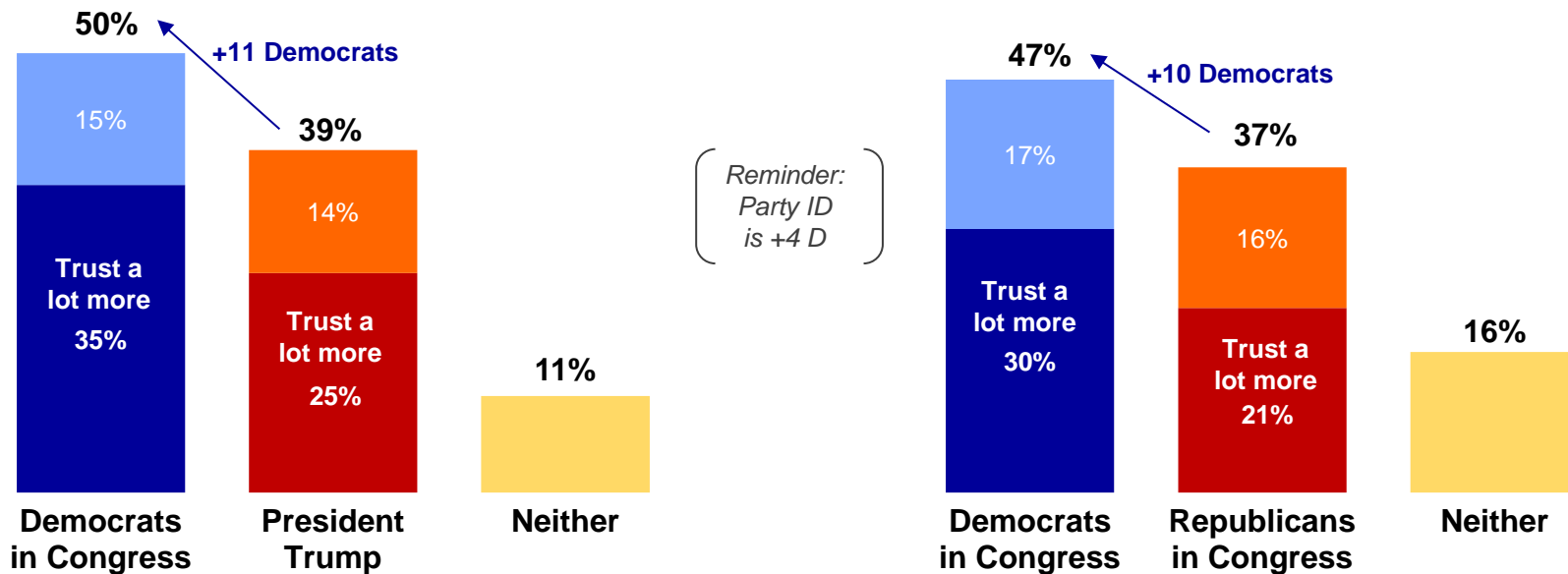
The salience of healthcare has not receded post-election.

Of all the issues Congress might address this year, how big a priority do you think Congress should put on addressing the issue of healthcare?

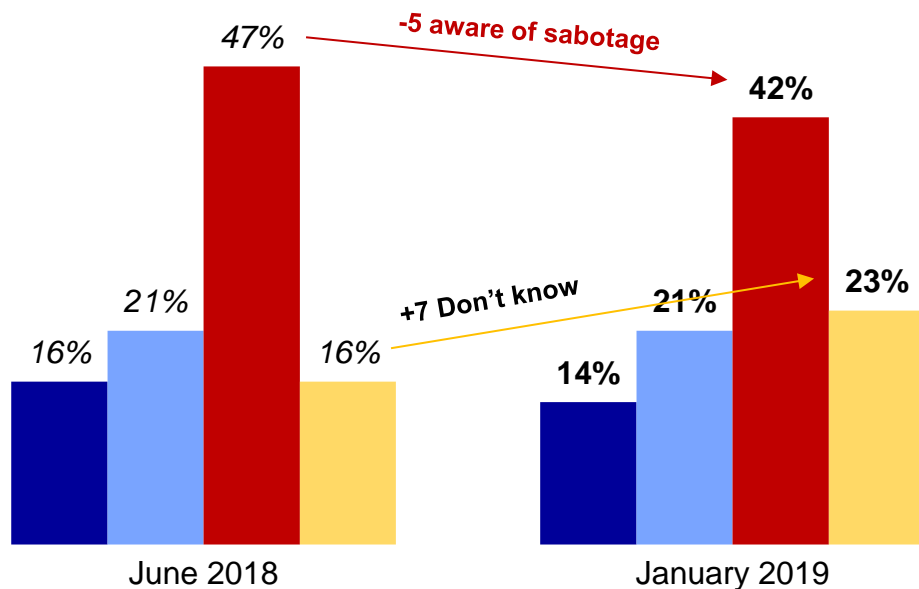


Democrats are more trusted on healthcare than either President Trump or Republicans in Congress.

Who do you trust more on dealing with the issue of healthcare?



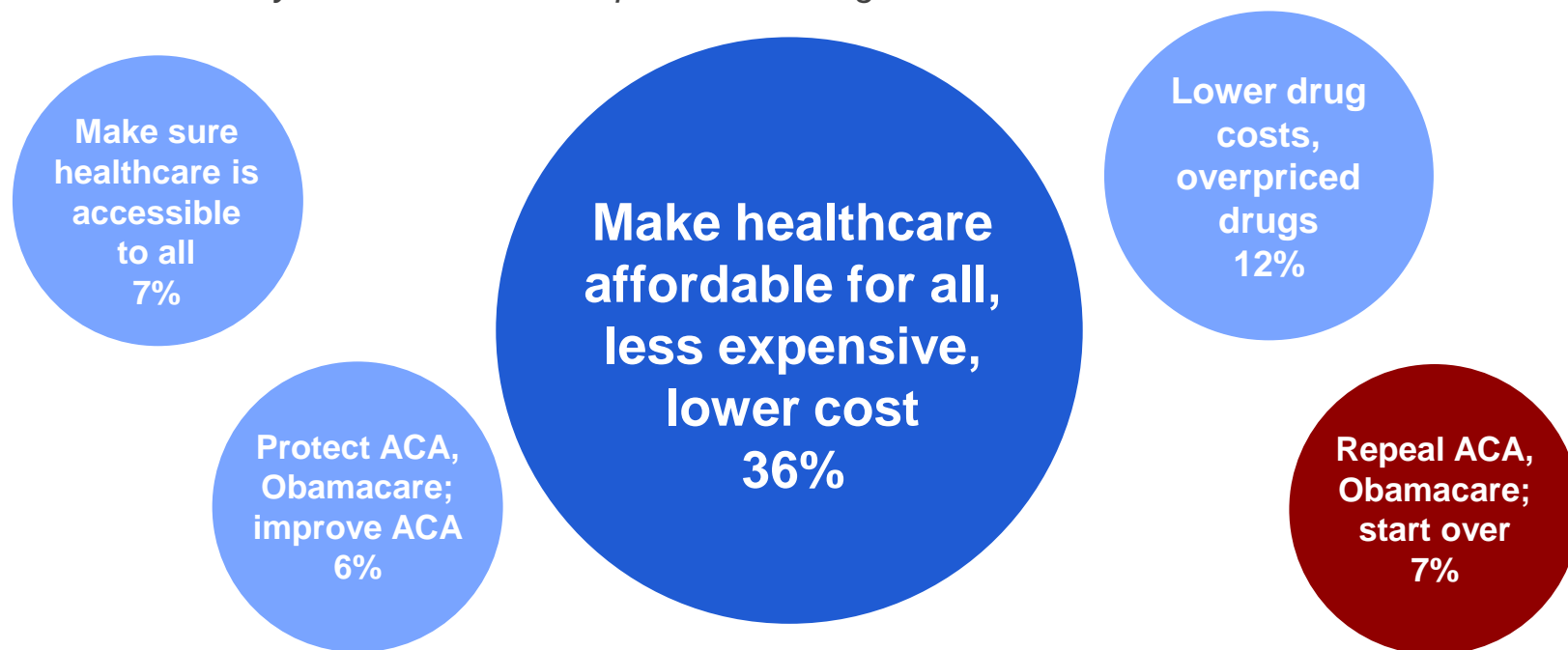
While a plurality believe Trump is actively trying to sabotage health care, the number has declined slightly, pointing to a need to get it back on voters' radar screen



- He is doing what he can to implement the Affordable Care Act and help make it work as intended
- He is not taking any action to help make the Affordable Care Act work, but he is not actively trying to sabotage it to make it fail
- He is actively trying to sabotage the Affordable Care Act, and doing things to make it more likely that it will fail
- Do not know enough to say


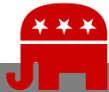
On a top-of-mind basis, voters say the priority for Congress should be making healthcare more affordable.

What would you like to see Congress do on the issue of healthcare? What specific aspects of healthcare do you think are most important for Congress to address?





Lowering costs (including Rx) is the top volunteered priority across party lines.

What, specifically, would you like to see Congress do on the issue of healthcare?

	 Democrats	Independents	 Republicans
Healthcare affordable for all Americans, less expensive	37%	32%	35%
Lower drug costs, overpriced pharmaceuticals	13%	11%	12%
End ACA, Obamacare; repeal Obamacare and start fresh	1%	7%	15%
Make sure everyone has access to healthcare	7%	7%	6%
Protect ACA, fight to keep Obamacare, make it better, improve it, fine tune the ACA	10%	-	3%
Protect coverage of preexisting conditions	7%	4%	3%
Better coverage, more coverage, expand the coverage	4%	2%	5%
Free healthcare for all Americans	5%	7%	1%
Universal healthcare for all	7%	1%	1%

When given a list, expanding coverage is the top priority for most Democrats, while independents and Republicans focus more on reducing health insurance costs.

My two top healthcare priorities for Congress:

	All voters	 Democrats	Independents	 Republicans
Reduce health insurance premiums and out-of-pocket costs	51%	43% <small>Liberals 37% Others 51%</small>	51%	61%
Crack down on excessive drug prices	42%	33%	48%	48%
Protect people who have preexisting medical conditions	38%	42%	36%	34%
Expand insurance coverage so more Americans are covered	37%	51% <small>Liberals 57% Others 44%</small>	35%	22%
Improve the quality of healthcare people receive	21%	22%	16%	21%
Expand medical research for new cures and treatments	11%	8%	13%	14%

For this year, Democratic voters' focus is on improving or expanding the ACA rather than passing a new healthcare law.

Which one of these would you like to see Congress do this year about the Affordable Care Act?

	All voters	Democrats	Independents	Republicans
Keep the current law in place, with changes to make it work better	24%	36%	16%	14%
Expand the current law to provide more coverage under Medicare, Medicaid, and other public programs	24%	32%	21%	16%
Pass a new healthcare law, like Medicare for All, that would provide universal coverage for all Americans	27%	29%	36%	21%
Repeal the current law, and replace it with a system that relies more on the free market, with less government involvement	25%	3%	27%	49%
TOTAL KEEP/EXPAND CURRENT LAW	48%	68%	37%	30%

And their immediate preference is for Democrats in Congress to pass concrete steps to improve healthcare.

Which one of the following, if either, do you think Democrats in Congress should focus more on this year?

Work to reduce excessive drug prices, protect people with preexisting conditions, and stop efforts by the Trump administration to roll back coverage under the current healthcare law

44%

Advance proposals for major changes in the health insurance system to achieve universal health insurance coverage for all Americans

37%

Neither of these

19%



Democrats:

56% reduce drug prices, etc.

40% major changes

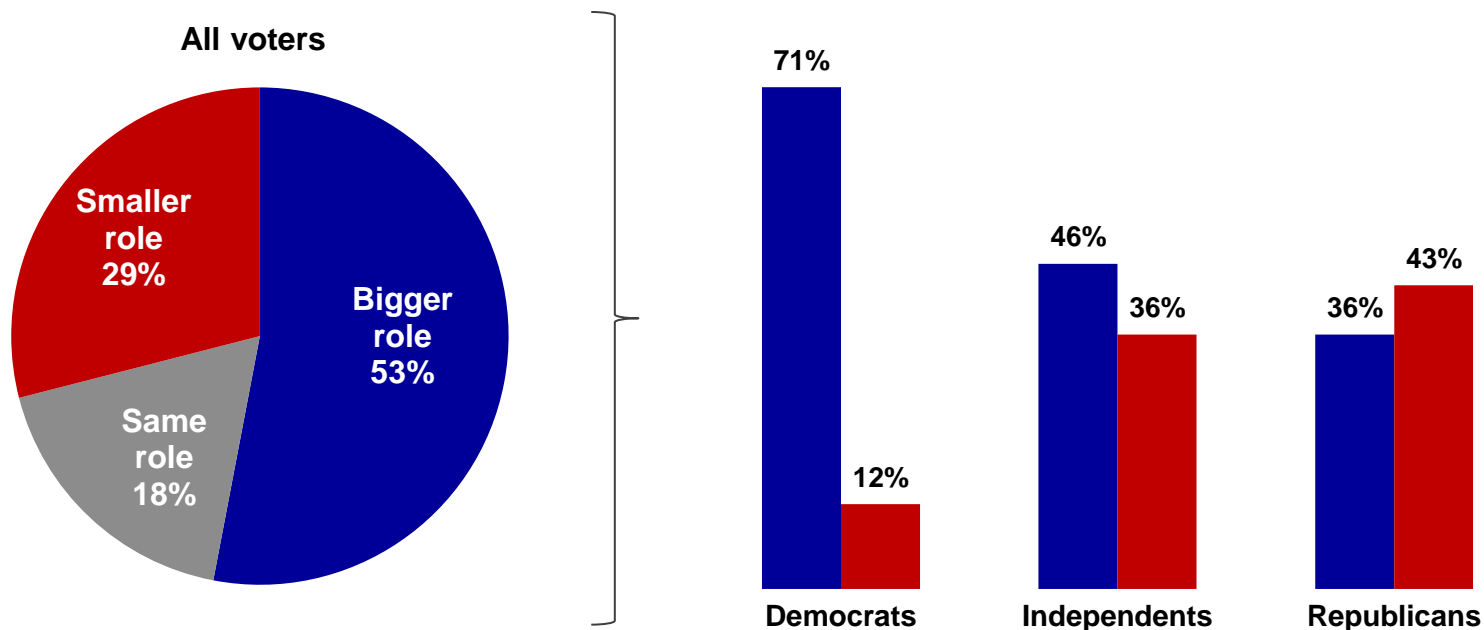
For the longer term, when Democrats are asked to choose between these alternatives, they are evenly split:

*Building on current private health insurance system by providing **new government-run options*** 44%

*Replacing the current for-profit private healthcare system with a new **government-run Medicare-for-All** program* 44%

A majority of voters say government should play a bigger role in the healthcare system and providing coverage.

Compared with its current role, do you think government should play a bigger role, a smaller role, or about the same role as now in the healthcare system/providing health insurance coverage?



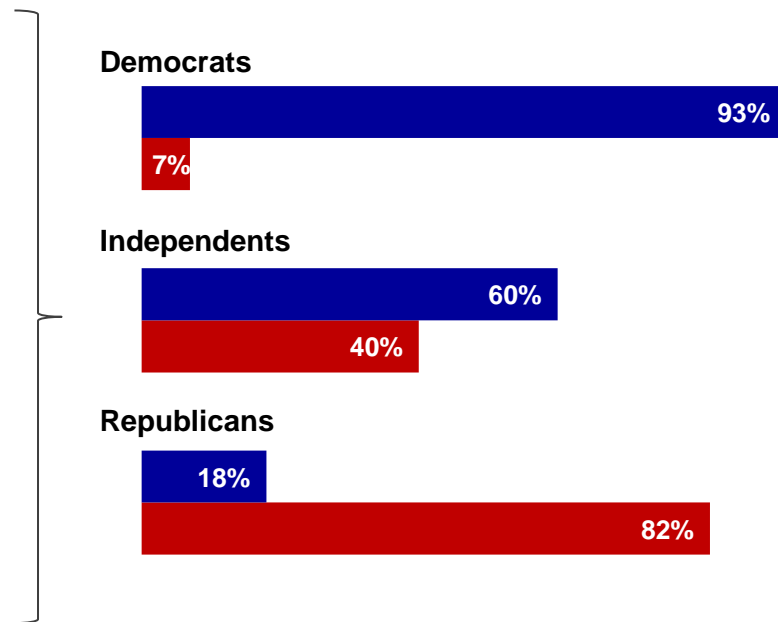
Democrats have the political high ground in the debate over junk plans.

Who would you agree with more on the issue of healthcare?

Democrats who want to make sure that insurance companies actually provide the coverage you need when you get sick and require insurance companies to cover people with preexisting conditions



Republicans who want to lower the cost of your healthcare by eliminating requirements that you pay for more insurance coverage than you want or need



Insurance and drug companies are primary targets of the blame for rising healthcare costs; among political actors, Trump/Republicans get more blame than Democrats.

If my healthcare premiums and copays go up this year, it is more the fault of:

Health insurance companies and drug companies who are raising prices to increase their profits

44%

President Trump and Republicans who have been actively working to undermine and sabotage the Affordable Care Act

32%

Democrats who wrote the Affordable Care Act, known as Obamacare

24%

Democrats

43%

53%

4%

Independents

48%

31%

21%

Republicans

43%

9%

48%



Most favored Democratic healthcare policies focus on consumer protections and drug costs.

Consumer protections to lower costs:

- ✓ Stop health insurance companies from selling junk health insurance plans that do not provide coverage for essential medical treatments and drugs or plans that discriminate against people with preexisting medical conditions **85% favor**
- ✓ Stop surprise medical bills that include unexpected charges by prohibiting insurance companies from charging higher out-of-network rates for services when a patient goes to an in-network hospital or medical practice **84% favor**
- ✓ Require all health insurance plans to fully cover more basic services before charging a deductible or copay, including more primary care and follow-up visits **83% favor**

Cracking down on excessive drug prices:

- ✓ Require drug companies to notify the government in advance when they plan to significantly raise drug prices and create a mechanism to identify and stop unjustified increases **84% favor**
- ✓ Require Medicare to negotiate directly with drug companies to get lower prices for prescription drugs **82% favor**
- ✓ Hold congressional hearings with drug company executives to stop abusive conduct and practices of drug companies in setting and raising the prices of prescription medicines **79% favor**

Democrats have potential to further grow their advantage on healthcare in 2019.

Who do you trust more on dealing with the issue of healthcare?

Democrats in Congress:

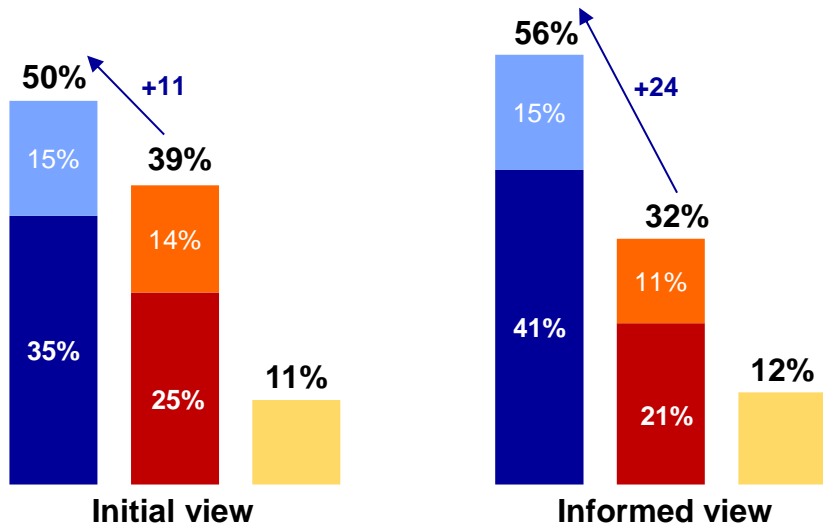
■ Trust a lot more ■ Trust somewhat more

Trump/Republicans in Congress:

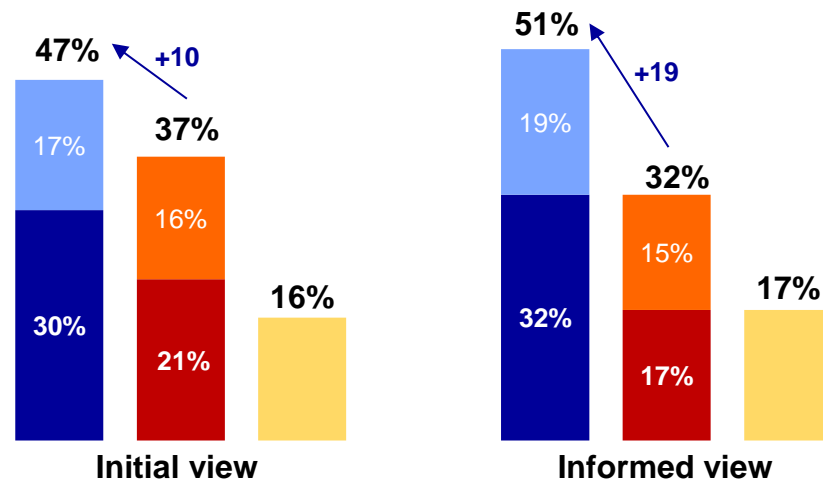
■ Trust a lot more ■ Trust somewhat more

■ Trust neither

Democrats vs. Trump



Democrats vs. Republicans



Movers (toward trusting the Democrats) are especially fired up by their proposal to end junk plans.

Movers toward Trusting Democrats:

- 63% are Trump voters (two-thirds of whom do not strongly approve of Trump on healthcare)
- 72% are non-college educated (58% overall), including 38% with a high school degree or less (30% overall)
 - 29% are white non-college educated women (20% overall)
- Four in 10 (39%) say the healthcare system does not work either for themselves or for most Americans (33% overall)
- 40% live in small towns or rural areas (26% overall)
- 51% make \$40,000/year or less (41% overall)
- 19% are uninsured (9% overall)

Top Democratic Proposals among Movers:

- ✓ **Stop health insurance companies from selling junk health insurance plans** that do not provide coverage for essential medical treatments and drugs or plans that discriminate against people with preexisting medical conditions **67% very favorable**
- ✓ **Stop surprise medical bills** that include unexpected charges by prohibiting insurance companies from charging higher out-of-network rates for services when a patient goes to an in-network hospital or medical practice **61% very favorable**
- ✓ **Hold congressional hearings with drug company executives to stop abusive conduct** and practices of drug companies in setting and raising the prices of prescription medicines **60% very favorable**
- ✓ **Require drug companies to notify the government** in advance when they plan to significantly **raise drug prices** and create a mechanism to identify and stop unjustified increases **60% very favorable**
- ✓ **Require all health insurance plans to fully cover more basic services** before charging a deductible or copay, including more primary care and follow-up visits **59% very favorable**



Most convincing Democratic healthcare messages for both the base and movers:

- *Democrats believe that **healthcare is a right** and not a privilege, and think all Americans should have a right to quality, affordable healthcare.*
- *Democrats understand that the rising **cost of healthcare is a huge financial burden on American families** today and a major cause of economic stress, and they are taking action to reduce excessive healthcare costs and make healthcare more affordable.*
- *Now that Democrats are in the majority in the House of Representatives, they will use their oversight authority to **hold drug companies and insurance companies accountable** for shady practices that jack up costs and reduce people's access to needed care.*
- *Democrats know there are **common-sense things we can do right now** to address the high cost of healthcare, and they want to work in a bipartisan way with Republicans to get them done this year.*
- *Democrats are committed to **protecting Medicare** for older Americans, and will oppose efforts to privatize Medicare or cut Medicare benefits.*