

**AP**

**NORC**  
at the UNIVERSITY of CHICAGO

The Associated Press-NORC  
Center for Public Affairs Research

# Americans' Views on Replacing the ACA

Conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research  
With funding from The Associated Press and NORC at the University of Chicago

*Interviews: 7/13-17/2017*

*1,019 adults*

*Margin of error: +/- 4.1 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults*

*NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.*

AMERICANS' VIEWS ON REPLACING THE ACA

**Q41. In general, do you support, oppose, or neither support nor oppose the Affordable Care Act, the health care reforms that were passed by Congress in March of 2010, also known as Obamacare?**

	AP-NORC 1/12-16/2017	AP-NORC 3/23-27/2017	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
<b>Strongly/Somewhat support NET</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>51</b>
Strongly support	28	22	25
Somewhat support	22	23	26
<b>Neither support nor oppose</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Strongly/Somewhat oppose NET</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>33</b>
Somewhat oppose	12	13	12
Strongly oppose	23	25	20
DON'T KNOW	-	-	*
SKIP/REFUSED	*	*	*
N=	1,036	1,110	1,019

**Q42. Which comes closer to your opinion about what President Trump and Congress should do when it comes to the 2010 health care law, also known as Obamacare?**

	AP-NORC 1/12-16/2017 <sup>1</sup>	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
Keep it in place	53	59
Repeal it	46	40
DON'T KNOW	*	1
SKIP/REFUSED	*	1
N=	1,036	1,019

*If keep it in place in Q42*

**Q43A. Do you think the health care law should be kept as it is now or do you think changes are needed to make the law work better?**

	AP-NORC 1/12-16/2017	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
Kept as it is now	23	26
Kept with changes	76	73
DON'T KNOW	1	*
SKIP/REFUSED	*	*
N=	561	621

<sup>1</sup> Question wording in January 2017 survey: Which comes closer to your opinion about what President-elect Donald Trump and the next Congress should do when it comes to the 2010 health care law, also known as Obamacare?

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*If repeal in Q42*

**Q43B. Do you think the health care law should be repealed immediately or do you think it should be repealed when a replacement is ready?**

	AP-NORC 1/12-16/2017	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
Repealed immediately	34	33
Repealed when a replacement is ready	66	66
DON'T KNOW	-	1
SKIP/REFUSED	-	*
<i>N=</i>	467	383

**Combined Q42, Q43A and Q43B**

	AP-NORC 1/12-16/2017	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
<b>Keep it in place</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>59</b>
Kept as it is now	12	15
Kept with changes	40	43
<b>Repeal it</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>40</b>
Repealed immediately	16	13
Repealed when a replacement is ready	31	26
DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED	1	2
<i>N=</i>	1,036	1,019

**Q44. Is it the responsibility of the federal government to make sure that all Americans have health care coverage, or not?**

	AP-NORC 3/23-27/2017	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
Yes, a federal government responsibility	52	62
No, not a federal government responsibility	47	37
DON'T KNOW	*	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1	1
<i>N=</i>	1,110	1,019

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**Q45. How well would you say you understand the proposals made by Republicans in Congress to replace the 2010 health care law?**

**[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
<b>Extremely/very well NET</b>	<b>19</b>
Extremely well	6
Very well	13
<b>Moderately well</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Not too well/not well at all NET</b>	<b>39</b>
Not too well	27
Not well at all	13
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	*

N= 1,019

**Q46. In general, do you support, oppose, or neither support nor oppose the proposals by Republicans in Congress to replace the 2010 health care law?**

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
<b>Strongly/Somewhat support NET</b>	<b>22</b>
Strongly support	6
Somewhat support	16
<b>Neither support nor oppose</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Strongly/Somewhat oppose NET</b>	<b>51</b>
Somewhat oppose	16
Strongly oppose	35
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N= 1,019

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**Q47. If the health care changes proposed by Republicans in Congress become law, do you think each of these will generally be better off or worse off, or will it not make much difference?**

**[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017	<b>A lot/ somewhat better off NET</b>	A lot better off	Somewhat better off	<b>Not much difference</b>	<b>Somewhat/ a lot worse off NET</b>	Somewhat worse off	A lot worse off	DK	SKP/ REF
You and your family	<b>17</b>	5	12	<b>45</b>	<b>37</b>	22	15	1	*
Women	<b>20</b>	4	15	<b>26</b>	<b>52</b>	22	30	2	*
Lower income families	<b>18</b>	4	14	<b>21</b>	<b>59</b>	19	40	1	*
Middle class families	<b>23</b>	4	18	<b>27</b>	<b>47</b>	31	16	1	2
High income families	<b>46</b>	25	22	<b>42</b>	<b>9</b>	6	2	2	2
Older Americans	<b>18</b>	5	13	<b>23</b>	<b>56</b>	23	33	2	2
Young adults	<b>26</b>	6	20	<b>32</b>	<b>39</b>	24	15	1	2
Healthy Americans	<b>28</b>	9	18	<b>47</b>	<b>23</b>	17	6	1	1
Americans with a history of serious illness	<b>16</b>	5	11	<b>18</b>	<b>64</b>	22	42	2	2
Children	<b>20</b>	7	13	<b>30</b>	<b>46</b>	26	20	2	2

N=1,019

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**Q48. Please tell me if you favor or oppose including each of the following in a replacement health care law.**

**[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

AP-NORC <sup>2</sup> 3/23-27/2017	<b>Strongly/ somewhat favor NET</b>	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	<b>Neither favor nor oppose</b>	<b>Somewhat/ strongly oppose NET</b>	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK	SKP/ REF
Removing the requirement that nearly all Americans have health insurance or pay a fine	<b>48</b>	33	16	<b>15</b>	<b>35</b>	14	21	*	1
Allowing young adults to stay on their parents' insurance plans until age 26	<b>69</b>	43	26	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	8	8	*	1
Reducing federal funding for the Medicaid program that covers health care for lower income people	<b>21</b>	10	11	<b>14</b>	<b>64</b>	19	45	*	*
Replacing income-based subsidies with age-based subsidies for people buying insurance	<b>16</b>	5	11	<b>34</b>	<b>48</b>	18	30	1	1
Requiring people who did not previously have coverage to pay an up-front surcharge when they get insurance	<b>11</b>	4	7	<b>18</b>	<b>70</b>	26	45	*	1

<sup>2</sup>Question wording in March 2017 Survey: Please tell me if you favor or oppose including each of the following in the replacement health care laws.

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Allowing insurers to charge older customers higher premiums based on age than what is currently permitted.	<b>7</b>	2	6	<b>12</b>	<b>80</b>	19	61	*	*
Denying federal funds to Planned Parenthood	<b>26</b>	18	9	<b>17</b>	<b>56</b>	14	42	*	1

N=1,110

AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017	<b>Strongly/ somewhat favor NET</b>	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	<b>Neither favor nor oppose</b>	<b>Somewhat/ strongly oppose NET</b>	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK	SKP/ REF
Removing the requirement that nearly all Americans have health insurance or pay a fine	<b>44</b>	27	17	<b>16</b>	<b>39</b>	17	21	*	1
Allowing individual states to permit insurance companies to charge some people higher premiums because of their medical history	<b>15</b>	4	10	<b>12</b>	<b>73</b>	20	53	-	*
Allowing individual states to reduce the types of benefits that insurers are now required to cover in every health care plan	<b>23</b>	10	13	<b>19</b>	<b>57</b>	19	37	1	1
Allowing individual states to reduce coverage for mental health and drug addiction treatment	<b>21</b>	9	12	<b>14</b>	<b>64</b>	21	42	*	1

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Allowing young adults to stay on their parents' insurance plans until age 26	<b>65</b>	43	22	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	10	8	*	1
Reducing federal funding for the Medicaid program that covers health care for lower income people	<b>22</b>	9	13	<b>15</b>	<b>62</b>	16	46	*	1
Replacing income-based subsidies with age-based subsidies for people buying insurance	<b>19</b>	5	14	<b>29</b>	<b>48</b>	23	25	3	1
Requiring people who did not previously have insurance coverage or had a break in their coverage to pay an up-front surcharge when they get insurance	<b>15</b>	7	9	<b>17</b>	<b>67</b>	23	44	1	*
Requiring people who had a break in insurance coverage to wait six months before getting new coverage	<b>11</b>	3	7	<b>16</b>	<b>72</b>	22	50	1	*
Allowing insurers to charge older customers higher premiums based on age than what is currently permitted.	<b>7</b>	2	4	<b>14</b>	<b>78</b>	17	61	*	1
Denying federal funds to Planned Parenthood	<b>25</b>	16	9	<b>15</b>	<b>57</b>	11	46	1	1



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Removing the requirement that all large employers offer affordable coverage to their employees	26	13	12	12	61	18	43	*	1
Cutting taxes for health care industries that were previously raised to pay for expanded coverage	23	8	15	26	47	20	27	2	1

N=1,019

**Q49. If Republicans in Congress are unable to pass a health care bill without the help of Democrats, should they stick to their positions even if it means not making changes to the current health care law or open negotiations with Democrats?**

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
Stick to their position	19
Negotiate with Democrats	80
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N=

1,019

**Q50. If Republicans in Congress offer to negotiate with Democrats on a new health care bill, should the Democrats negotiate with the Republicans, or refuse to negotiate even if it means not making changes to the current health care law?**

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
Negotiate with Republicans	86
Refuse to negotiate	13
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N=

1,019

AMERICANS' VIEWS ON REPLACING THE ACA

**Q51. Are you now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan or do you not have health insurance at this time?**

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
Yes, I am covered by health insurance or a health plan	89
No, I do not have health insurance	9
Don't know	2
SKIP/REFUSED	*

N=

1,019

**PID1. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an independent or none of these?**

*If Democrat in PID1*

**PIDa. Do you consider yourself a strong Democrat or a moderate Democrat?**

*If Republican in PID1*

**PIDb. Do you consider yourself a strong Republican or a moderate Republican?**

*If Independent, None of these, or Don't Know/Skip/Refused in PID1*

**PIDi. Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?**

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
<b>Democrat NET</b>	<b>50</b>
Strong Democrat	13
Moderate Democrat	23
Lean Democrat	14
<b>Independent/None – Don't lean</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Republican NET</b>	<b>30</b>
Lean Republican	9
Moderate Republican	14
Strong Republican	7
Unknown	1

N=

1,019

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**C11. Which type of area do you live in?**

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
Urban	28
Suburban	39
Exurban	9
Rural	21
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N=

1,019

**AGE**

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
18-24	12
25-34	18
35-44	17
45-54	15
55-64	18
65-74	13
75+	7

N=

1,019

**GENDER**

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
Male	48
Female	52

N=

1,019

**RACE/ETHNICITY**

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
White	64
Black or African American	12
Hispanic	16
Other	8

N=

1,019

## AMERICANS' VIEWS ON REPLACING THE ACA

### MARITAL STATUS

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
Married	46
Widowed	5
Divorced	12
Separated	2
Never married	26
Living with partner	8

*N=* 1,019

### EMPLOYMENT STATUS

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
Employed	55
Not employed	45

*N=* 1,019

### EDUCATION

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
Less than a high school diploma	11
High school graduate or equivalent	29
Some college	31
College graduate or above	29

*N=* 1,109

## AMERICANS' VIEWS ON REPLACING THE ACA

### INCOME

	AP-NORC 7/13-17/2017
Under \$10,000	8
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	12
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	13
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	10
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	11
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	14
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	13
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	12
\$150,000 or more	7

N=

1,019

### **Study Methodology**

This survey was conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and with funding from The Associated Press and NORC at the University of Chicago. Data were collected using the AmeriSpeak Omnibus®, a monthly multi-client survey using NORC's probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. The survey was part of a larger study that included questions about other topics not included in this report. During the initial recruitment phase of the panel, randomly selected U.S. households were sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame and then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, and field interviewers (face-to-face). The panel provides sample coverage of approximately 97% of the U.S. household population. Those excluded from the sample include people with P.O. Box only addresses, some addresses not listed in the USPS Delivery Sequence File, and some newly constructed dwellings.

Interviews for this survey were conducted between July 13 and 17, 2017, with adults age 18 and over representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 1,019 completed the survey—786 via the web and 233 via telephone. Interviews were conducted in English by professional interviewers who were carefully trained on the specific survey for this study. The final stage completion rate is 26.4 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 31.4 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 91.1 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 7.5 percent. The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 4.1 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups.

Once the sample has been selected and fielded, and all the study data have been collected and made final, a poststratification process is used to adjust for any survey nonresponse as well as any non-coverage or under- and oversampling resulting from the study specific sample design. Poststratification variables included age, gender, census division, race/ethnicity, and education. Weighting variables were obtained from the 2017 Current Population Survey. The weighted data, which reflect the U.S. population of adults age 18 and over, were used for all analyses.

For more information, email [info@apnorc.org](mailto:info@apnorc.org).

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- NORC at the University of Chicago is one of the oldest and most respected, independent research institutions in the world.

The two organizations have established The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals.

## AMERICANS' VIEWS ON REPLACING THE ACA

The founding principles of The AP-NORC Center include a mandate to carefully preserve and protect the scientific integrity and objectivity of NORC and the journalistic independence of AP. All work conducted by the Center conforms to the highest levels of scientific integrity to prevent any real or perceived bias in the research. All of the work of the Center is subject to review by its advisory committee to help ensure it meets these standards. The Center will publicize the results of all studies and make all datasets and study documentation available to scholars and the public.