

# NATIONAL SURVEY

## A Survey of Likely Voters

October 2, 2014

**Sample Size Total: 1,000**

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Total</b>
Men	48%
Women	52%

1. Starting out, are you registered to vote at your current address?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes	100%

2. I know it's still a few weeks off, but what are the chances of your voting in November's general election for federal, state, and local offices?

	<b>Total</b>
Almost certain	84%
Probably	16%

3. Thank you. Starting out, in general, when it comes to the direction of the country would you say you are:

	<b>Total</b>
Very satisfied	8%
Somewhat satisfied	27%
Somewhat dissatisfied	26%
Very dissatisfied	35%
(Don't know/ refused)	3%

4. When thinking about you and your family, how would you say your health care costs have been changing over the last few years?

	<b>Total</b>
Increasing	55%
Staying about the same	36%
Decreasing	5%
Not sure	5%

Methodology: 1,000 interviews among likely voters were conducted from September 30-October 2, 2014 by internet survey. The margin of error is  $\pm 3.1$  at the 95% confidence level.



And thinking about a few specific pieces to health care costs, of the following, which have been increasing in cost over the past few years for you and your family, which have decreased, and which have stayed about the same?

	<b>Increasing</b>	<b>Decreasing</b>	<b>Staying the same</b>
5. Health insurance premiums	63%	6%	31%
6. Out of pocket costs	61%	7%	31%
7. Prescription drug prices	55%	8%	38%

And regardless of how your own personal costs have changed, here are some reasons that people have given for why they feel prescription drug costs have increased in this country. Please rate on a scale of 0 to 10 where a 10 means you think is it a big contributor to increased health care costs, and a 0 means you think it is not a big contributor to increased costs at all. You can use any number between 0 and 10.

	<b>Mean</b>	<b>% Big contributor</b>
8. Increased government regulation	6.06	35%
9. Waste, fraud and abuse in the health care system	7.03	50%
10. Profits of the major drug companies	7.55	58%
11. Lack of competitors for high priced drugs	6.69	43%

12. The last 20 years have seen a rise in generic prescription drugs as an alternative to brand name prescription drugs. In your opinion, how helpful is increasing the availability of generic drugs to helping lower the cost of health care to individuals?

	<b>Total</b>
Very helpful	52%
Somewhat helpful	39%
Not very helpful	7%
Not helpful at all	3%

13. Private sector innovations such as generic drug substitution and mail order pharmacies have increased in usage recently. Based on what you know about this topic, do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Making generic prescription drugs more readily available helps keep costs down and makes needed treatment more accessible to people across the country

	<b>Total</b>
Strongly agree	50%
Somewhat agree	43%
Somewhat disagree	6%
Strongly disagree	1%

14. As you may have heard in the news recently, “biologic” prescription drugs are an innovative and potentially revolutionary form of treatment to many complex diseases like cancer, Alzheimer’s, and multiple sclerosis. Their use has become more widespread in recent years, and is expected to grow in the future. Biologic drugs are extremely expensive though, some costing \$1,000 per pill. Given what you know have heard about this topic, would you say you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Biologic prescription drugs are a needed and welcome advancement in health care and given the level of research that needs to go into developing the drugs, the high price tag is understandable, but more competition is needed and we should be taking steps to lower the cost of these drugs.

	<b>Total</b>
Strongly agree	37%
Somewhat agree	35%
Somewhat disagree	7%
Strongly disagree	3%
Not sure	18%

15. Just as generic prescription drugs are an alternative to the more expensive brand-name prescription drugs, European and Asian nations have successfully introduced what are called “biosimilars” as an alternative to more expensive brand-name biologics. These biosimilar drugs, which provide the same benefits in clinical trials, have lowered costs by as much as 40 percent. Given this information would you support or oppose the introduction of biosimilar prescription drugs in the United States?

	<b>Total</b>
Strongly support	37%
Somewhat support	51%
Somewhat oppose	10%
Strongly oppose	2%

Below are a few arguments from supporters of allowing biosimilar drugs to be approved in this country. Please rate each on a scale of 0 to 10 where a 10 means you strongly agree with the statement and a 0 means you do not agree at all with the statement.

	<b>Mean</b>	<b>% Strongly agree</b>	<b>% Total agree</b>
16. Biosimilar drugs have been in use in Europe since 2006 after undergoing extensive clinical trials to ensure their safe and effective usage, as well as to confirm that there are no clinically meaningful difference in terms of safety, purity, and potency as the brand name drug they are replacing. It is time to allow the same access to these prescription drugs here in the United States.	7.31	50%	75%
17. Regardless of how you feel about the law overall, the Affordable Health Care Act specifically allowed for their approval, but the FDA (the Food and Drug Administration) still has not completed the process for approving these prescription drugs. Four years is plenty of time for the FDA to have developed a process for approving these prescription drugs.	7.31	54%	76%
18. After eight years of safe usage in Europe, the only reason these drugs have not been approved is because the large pharmaceutical companies have been lobbying to keep their monopoly on biologic prescription drugs. It is time to create more competition and approve these prescription drugs.	7.43	54%	76%
19. Health care costs are out of control and we need to do what it takes to rein in costs. One thing we can do is approve these biosimilar drugs to encourage competition and lower prices.	7.57	57%	78%
20. The FDA (the Food and Drug Administration) needs to ensure the safety of all prescription drugs, but taking more than four years to set up the process to approve drugs that have been used for almost a decade in Europe is ridiculous. The FDA needs to complete the process right away without more red tape, so that patients in this country can have access to these prescription drugs.	7.43	56%	77%

**The last few questions are for statistical purposes only.**

21. What is the last year of schooling that you have completed?

	<b>Total</b>
1 – 11 <sup>th</sup> grade	2%
High school graduate	15%
Non-college post H.S.	1%
Some college	26%
College graduate	40%
Post-graduate school	16%
(Don't know/ refused)	0%

22. Are you married, unmarried living with partner, single, separated, divorced or widowed?

	<b>Total</b>
Married	53%
Unmarried with partner	7%
Single	27%
Separated/divorced	10%
Widowed	3%
(Don't know/ refused)	0%

23. Do you have any children 18 years of age or younger living in your household?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes	32%
No	67%
(Don't know/ refused)	0%

4. Please indicate in what year where you born.

	<b>Total</b>
Under 45	46%
45-59	38%
60+	15%

5. Could you please indicate which race/ethnicity best describes you?

	<b>Total</b>
White	72%
Black	11%
Hispanic (Puerto Rican, Mexican etc)	11%
Asian	4%
(Other)	2%

6. And generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a:

	<b>Total</b>
Strong Republican	14%
Not-so-strong Republican	11%
Independent - lean Republican	7%
Independent	20%
Independent - lean Democratic	9%
Not-so-strong Democrat	13%
Strong Democrat	22%
Other	1%
Refused	1%