

**TO:** Community Catalyst

**FROM:** HIT Strategies

**DATE:** April 28, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Community Catalyst Healthcare Survey 2025 – Public Perceptions on Healthcare Costs, Government Role, and Policy Priorities

## Key Findings

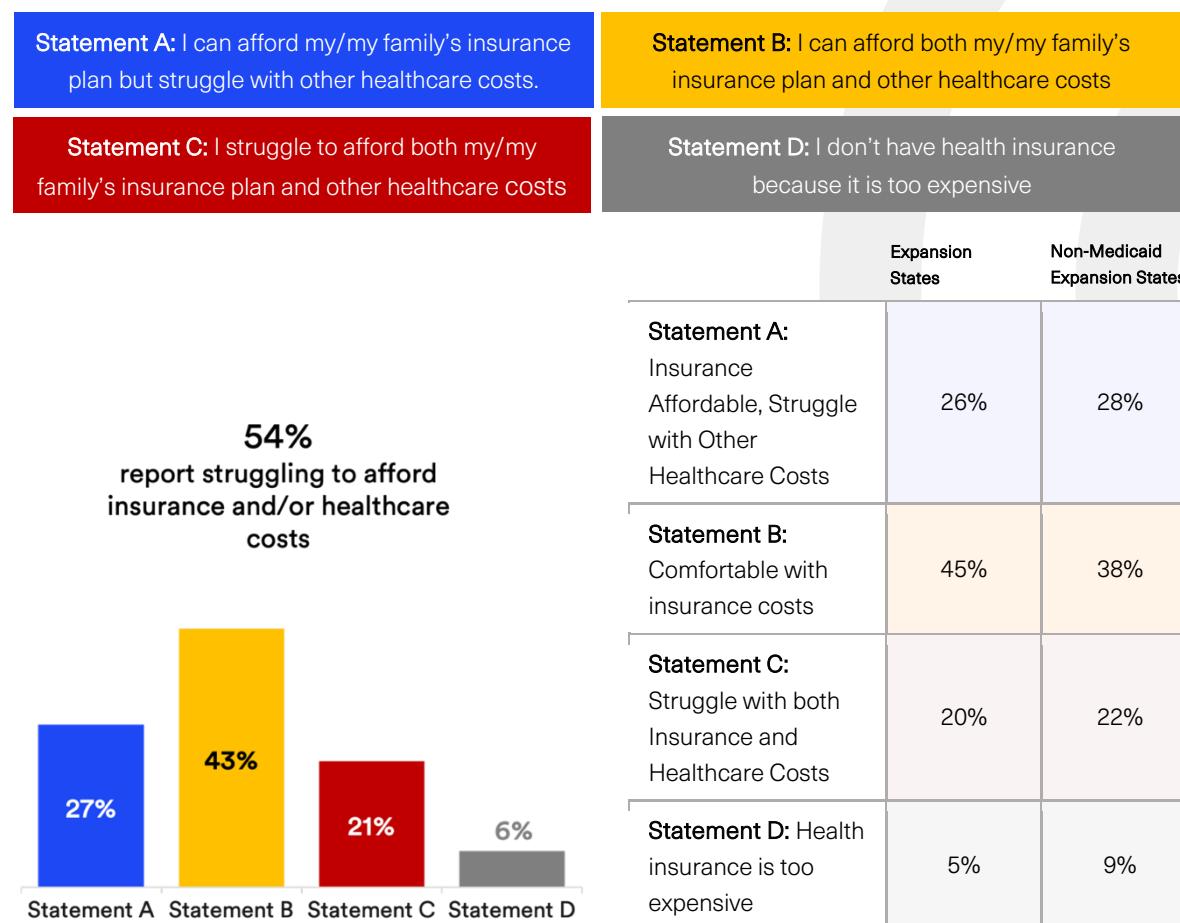
1. Healthcare affordability is a significant and growing concern for Americans across political affiliations, ranking as a top priority alongside the economy and cost of living. While cost of living and the economy are currently top-of-mind (60% and 56% respectively), 42% of respondents identified healthcare as a primary concern, an increase from the previous year. When considering which issues Congress should prioritize, lowering healthcare costs was among the top responses (28%) and had the least partisan division when thinking about easing personal living expenses. Over half of those surveyed (54%) report struggling to afford health insurance and other healthcare-related expenses, a problem particularly pronounced in states without Medicaid expansion (59% report struggling).
2. Voters across the political spectrum want to see major changes in the healthcare system, emphasizing the desire among voters for bipartisan action. Voters want to see substantial change in the healthcare system (73% say it needs major change or be completely rebuilt). This includes 75% of self-ID Democrats, 76% of Independents, and 67% of Republicans. This finding highlights the need for voters from all political ideologies to offer bipartisan solutions that push major change in the healthcare system forward, an issue of concern across all political ideologies. Additionally, voters overwhelmingly prefer to view healthcare as a public good (73%) rather than a business that is maintained through supply and demand.
3. Voters overwhelmingly support a greater role for the government in regulating and managing healthcare, particularly in reducing costs and ensuring universal access. A substantial 73% of voters (75% Democrats, 80% Independents, 67% Republicans) believe the healthcare system needs significant change or a complete rebuild. 78% of respondents advocate for a greater government role in lowering costs, a view popular across party lines (Democrats 89%, Independents 73%, Republicans 68%). A similarly large majority (73%) prefers treating healthcare as a public good, emphasizing care for all over profit. A majority of respondents expressed distrust in health insurance companies (63% distrust) and hospitals (54% distrust) to keep prices fair on their own. There is strong support for government action to address medical debt, such as setting limits on hospital charges, expanding financial assistance, and removing medical debt from credit reports.

## Methodology

These findings are based on a proprietary survey conducted by HIT Strategies on behalf of Community Catalyst. This survey consisted of 1000 registered voters nationally and was conducted via web panel from April 1<sup>st</sup> to April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The overall margin of error is +/- 2.8%

**Healthcare affordability is a significant and growing concern for voters across political affiliations, ranking as a top priority alongside the economy and cost of living.**

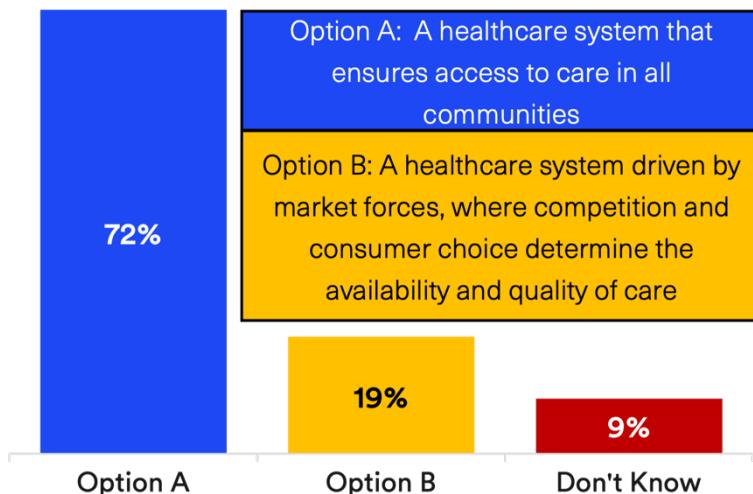
Q17. Which of the following statements best describes your experience when it comes to affordability of insurance and health care?



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## Access to Care vs. Market Decision



|            | Dem. | Ind. | Rep. |
|------------|------|------|------|
| Option A   | 82%  | 72%  | 62%  |
| Option B   | 13%  | 16%  | 27%  |
| Don't Know | 5%   | 11%  | 11%  |

There is a significant lack of trust in private healthcare entities like insurance companies and hospitals to keep prices fair without external oversight, reinforcing the preference for government intervention and consumer protections.

Q23. Do you think healthcare should be treated as a service that operates in the private market, or should it be managed by the government to ensure access for all?

Healthcare should be part of the private market, where competition and profit incentives drive quality and innovation, even if it means some people cannot afford care.



|     | Dem. | Ind. | Rep. |
|-----|------|------|------|
| 23% | 14%  | 21%  | 34%  |
| 63% | 77%  | 60%  | 60%  |
| 14% | 9%   | 20%  | 16%  |

Healthcare should be primarily managed by the government to ensure that decisions are based on patient needs, not profits, and that everyone has access to care

Don't Know