

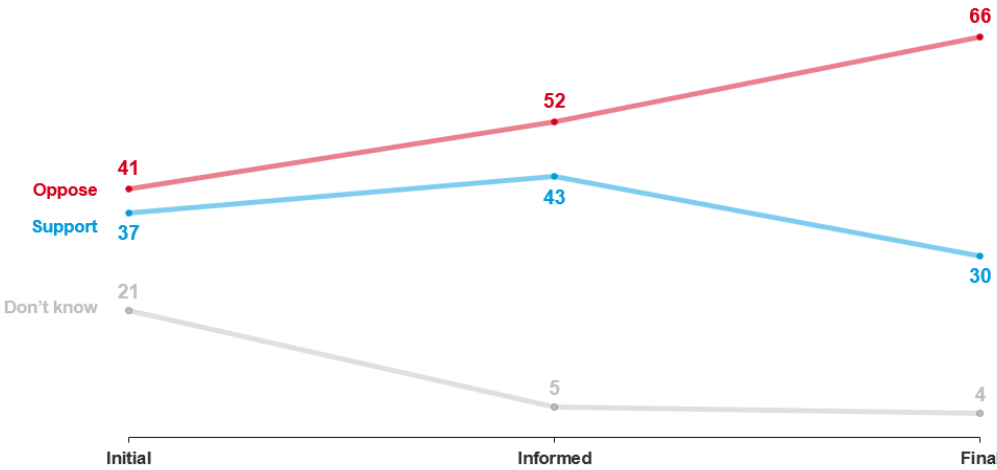


TO: The Business Council of New York State, Inc.
FROM: Global Strategy Group
DATE: February 1, 2021
RE: **New York Health Act Statewide Survey Findings**

Global Strategy Group conducted a survey between November 18 and November 22, 2020 of 601 registered voters in New York State with the goal of understanding their opinions around the current health care system in New York State and their attitudes toward the New York Health Act. This research finds that, in the midst of the COVID-19 health crisis, voters would prefer to keep their current insurance as opposed to adopting a New York State government-run plan. Key findings from this research are as follows:

- **New York voters like their insurance and want to keep it.** New York State voters are generally satisfied with their current health insurance coverage (91%), with a majority claiming to be very satisfied (55%). Further, the pandemic has had little impact on this satisfaction (79% no difference), though more say it has made them more satisfied with their coverage (17%) as opposed to less satisfied (5%).
- **Voters oppose the New York Health Act when they learn more about it.** Statewide, awareness of the New York Health Act is low – 24% have heard a lot or some about it, but 75% have heard not that much or nothing at all. And initially, 37% of voters support the act, 41% oppose it, and 21% are unsure. Opposition grows by 11 points to 52% after voters learn more about the New York Health Act, specifically that it will eliminate their current plans, while support grows by only 6 points to 43%.
As you may know, some lawmakers have proposed creating a single-payer health care system called the New York Health Act that would provide coverage for every New Yorker and would replace private insurance company coverage. Instead of getting health insurance through your job, spouse, or parent, or buying it on your own, all New Yorkers would get their health care covered by the state government and all private health insurance would be eliminated, meaning that no one would be able to keep their current health coverage.

New York Health Act Support/Opposition Movement



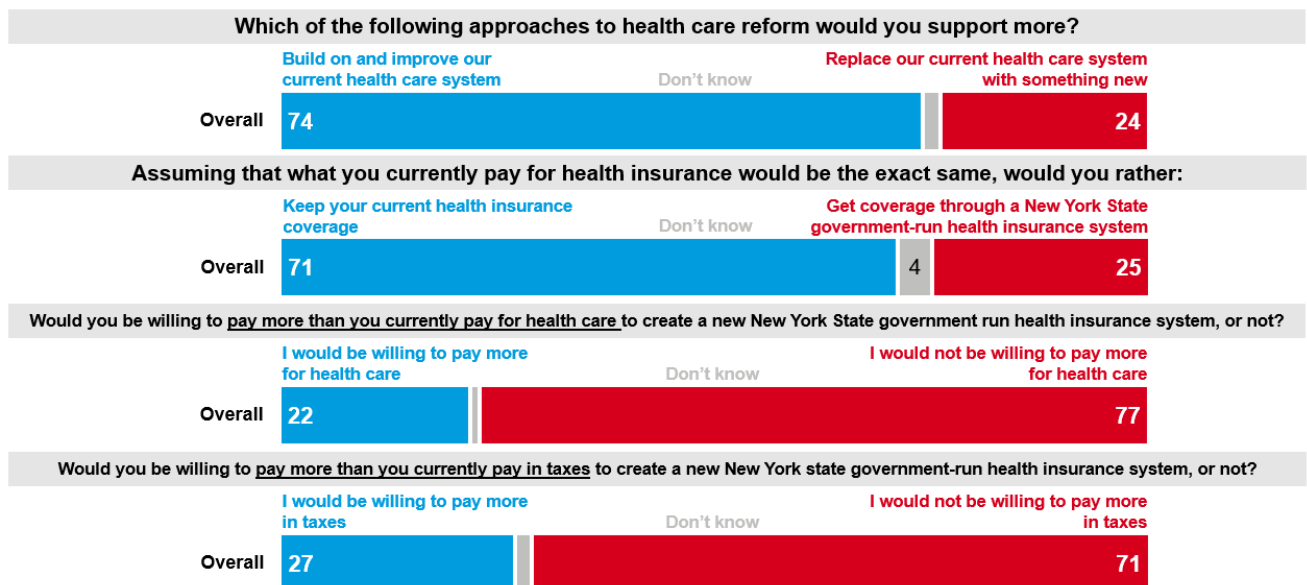
- **After learning about the New York Health Act, voters support keeping their current coverage.** Nearly two-thirds say they prefer the existing system where they can keep their current plans (64%) over a single-payer system where they would be enrolled in a New York State government-run plan (33%).

Based on what you know, which health care system do you prefer -- the existing system where you can keep your current plan or a single-payer system where you would be enrolled in a New York State government-run plan?

- **Wait times and doctor choice top reasons to oppose the act.** In addition to the threat the New York Health Act poses to their current health care plans, voters are also worried it will create longer wait times (65% say it raises major doubts about supporting the act) and prevent them from seeing the doctors of their choice (64% major doubts). Further, voters are concerned about the increase in taxes and that the New York Health Act would put health care in the hands of unaccountable Albany politicians (62% major doubts).

MESSAGES ABOUT THE NEW YORK HEALTH ACT	
Sorted by % Major Doubts about the New York Health Act	
	OVERALL
[WAIT TIMES] The New York Health Act would reduce access to care, resulting in worse patient outcomes, massive waiting lists for patients, and delays for urgent care. Patients in need of urgent cancer treatment or critical brain surgery would have as long as ten-month waits, and there would be less availability of screening tests for diseases, which could result in diseases going unchecked and progressing.	65
[CHOICE] Under the New York Health Act, patients would not be guaranteed to see the doctor or specialist of their choice. Patients may be forced to stop seeing the doctors they have been going to for years and who intimately know their patients' medical history.	64
[TAXES] The New York Health Act is projected to cost up to \$250 billion in new taxes, which would more than double New York State's current annual spending and put health care in the hands of unaccountable Albany politicians. The only way to fund this system would be with devastating tax increases and dramatic cuts to essential services like education and public safety.	62
[COVERAGE] Under the New York Health Act, Medicare as it exists for seniors would be eliminated, which would require obtaining approval from the federal government and Congress to redirect Medicaid and Medicare funding to the state. Further, individuals who like their current health care coverage - whether provided by an employer, a union, or purchased on their own - would lose it.	60

- **Voters support fixing the current system rather than starting over.** Voters overwhelmingly support building on the current health insurance system (82% support/15% oppose). And when forced to choose, voters clearly prefer the current system over change. They want to build on the current system (74%) instead of replacing it



(24%) and would rather keep their current coverage (71%) than get it through a New York State government run system (25%). In addition, overall they are not open to paying more for their health care (22% willing to pay more/77% not willing) or pay more in taxes to fund a new system (27% willing to pay more/71% not willing).

ABOUT THIS RESEARCH

Global Strategy Group conducted a multi-channel survey with phone and online interviews of 601 registered voters in New York State between November 18 and November 22, 2020. The margin of error at the 95% confidence level for registered voters is +/- 4.0%. Care was taken to ensure the demographic composition of the sample matched New York State's registered voter population across a variety of demographic variables including race, gender, age, education, and region.