Ipsos Public Affairs

1146 19th St., NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 463-7300

Interview dates: July 9-13, 2009
Interviews: 1007 adults; 848 registered voters
480 Democrats/Lean Democrats; 359 Republicans/Lean Republicans
Margin of error: ± 3.09 for all adults; ± 3.37 for registered voters
± 4.47 for Democrats; ± 5.17 for Republicans

Ipsos/McClatchy Poll
PROJECT #81-4621-23
NOTE: all results shown are percentages unless otherwise labeled.

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted July 9-13, 2009. For the survey, a nationally representative, randomly selected sample of exactly 1007 adults aged 18 and older across the United States was interviewed by Ipsos. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate within 3.09 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult population in the U.S. been polled. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error. These data were weighted to ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the actual U.S. population according to U.S. Census figures. Respondents had the option to be interviewed in English or Spanish.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

1. Should the primary goal of a national health care overhaul be more to extend health insurance to the millions of Americans who now lack it, or should the primary goal be to rein in the rising costs of health care? If you had to choose one goal over the other, which would you choose?

Extend health insurance to Americans who now lack it……	46
Rein in the rising costs of health care……..	44
(There should not be a health care overhaul) ……	5
(Don't know/Not sure)……..	4

2a. Which of the following parties involved in health care reform do you trust the MOST to make sure that all Americans have access to quality healthcare?

President Barack Obama……	26
Doctors and other health practitioners….	20
Democrats in Congress……..	14
Republicans in Congress…….	10
Health insurance companies……	9
Pharmaceutical companies……	3
(None of them) ……	13
(Don't know/Not sure)……	5

2b. Which of the remaining parties involved in health care reform do you trust the LEAST to make sure that all Americans have access to quality healthcare?

Republicans in Congress……	20
Health insurance companies……	19
Pharmaceutical companies……	17
Democrats in Congress……..	16
President Barack Obama……	14
Doctors and other health practitioners….	6
(None of them) ……	5
(Don't know/Not sure)……	4

One of the points being debated is whether or not the government should create a public health insurance plan as an alternative to private insurance plans.

3. Which of the following is closest to your opinion?

It is necessary to create a public health insurance plan to make sure that all Americans have access to quality healthcare ……	52
Access to quality healthcare for all Americans can be achieved without having to create a public health insurance plan……..	44
(There should not be a health care overhaul)……	-
(Don't know/Not sure)……	4

(ASKED OF ½ SAMPLE)

4. Compared with current private health insurance plans, do you think a public health insurance plan would provide…?

Higher quality care……	21
Lower quality care……	40
Would not make any difference…..	36
(Don't know/Not sure) ……..	2

(ASKED OF OTHER ½ SAMPLE)

5. For you and your family, do you think a public health insurance plan would make the overall cost of health care…?

More affordable than it is today…...	38
Less affordable than it is today……	27
Would not make any difference…..	31
(Don't know/Not sure)……...	4

(SPLIT SAMPLE: ASKED ONLY ½ OF THE ITEMS FROM ANY ONE RESPONDENT)

6. Please tell me how much would you support or oppose the following measures in order to allow all Americans to have access to quality healthcare? Do you…?

	Strongly support	*Somewhat support*	*Somewhat oppose*	*Strongly oppose*	*(Neither support nor oppose)*	*(Not sure)*	***Total support***	***Total oppose***
Offering tax breaks or incentives to small businesses so they can provide health insurance to their employees and their families……..……...……	71	20	2	6	1	0	91	8
Allowing the government to negotiate for discounts on drugs..……..	49	22	9	16	2	2	71	25
Requiring that all employers offer health insurance to their employees and their families……..	49	21	10	18	1	1	70	28
Requiring that all Americans are enrolled in a health insurance plan – whether through their employer or through a public insurance plan…….	44	26	10	17	2	2	69	26
Limiting the amount of damage payments that patients can be awarded in malpractice law suits against healthcare providers……	33	29	13	17	5	2	62	31
Increasing taxes on alcoholic beverages.	39	21	11	27	2	0	59	39
Levying taxes on soft drinks……..	22	21	16	35	5	2	42	51
Creating a national sales tax or value-added tax……..	10	22	18	43	3	4	32	61
Taxing individuals on their employer-provided health insurance contributions..	12	20	13	51	3	1	32	64

7. Do you and all members of your household currently have health insurance coverage?

Yes, all…….....	77
No, only some……..	15
No, none …….....	8
(Don't know/Not sure) ……	0

8. Do you personally or does anyone else in your household suffer from any chronic or serious medical condition?

Yes…….....	37
No …….....	63
(Don't know/Not sure)	1

(ASKED ONLY IF YES AT Q8)

9. Would you say that your current health insurance coverage is sufficient to receive the appropriate amount of care required for this/these conditions?

Yes…….....	72
No …….....	27
(Don't know/Not sure)	1

PARTY AFFILIATION / IDEOLOGY

1. Are you currently registered to vote at this address, or not?

Yes……..	84
No……	16
(Not sure)...	0

2a. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?

(IF "DEMOCRAT" TO Q.2a, Q.2b ASKED. IF "REPUBLICAN" TO Q.2a, Q.2c ASKED. IF "INDEPENDENT" or "NONE OF THESE" TO Q.2a, Q.2d ASKED. RESULTS SHOWN IN SUMMARY BELOW.)

2b. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Democratic Party?
2c. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Republican Party?
2d. Do your beliefs tend to lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

Strongly Democrat……..	21
Moderately Democrat….	14
Lean Democrat…….	13
Strongly Republican…...	11
Moderately Republican...	10
Lean Republican…….	15
Independent (No lean)…	17
Initial Democrats……...	35
Total Democrats……	48
Initial Republicans…….	21
Total Republicans…….	36