

Before the Supreme Court Hearings: Nearly Half Disapprove of Health Care Law
 March 21-25, 2012

Two years after the health care law was enacted, Americans continue to be skeptical about it. 47% disapprove of the law, including 30% who strongly disapprove. 36% of Americans support the law either somewhat or strongly.

Since the health care law was passed in March 2010, more have disapproved than approved of it. The highest level of support was reached in May 2010 when 43% of Americans approved of the law; the lowest level occurred just after it was passed in March 2010, when only 32% supported it.

	Views of the Health Care Law					
	Now	12/2011	6/2011	10/2010	5/2010	3/2010
Strongly approve	16%	12%	14%	16%	19%	16%
Somewhat approve	20	23	23	23	24	16
Somewhat disapprove	17	16	15	16	13	14
Strongly disapprove	30	35	33	27	34	39
DK/NA	17	14	15	18	11	15

Opinions of the health care law break down along party lines. Most Republicans disapprove of it, including six in 10 who disapprove strongly, while most Democrats approve. Among independents, just under half are opposed to the law. A majority of Tea Party supporters also disapprove.

	Views of the Health Care Law – by Party ID			
	Reps	Dems	Inds	Tea Party
Strongly approve	3%	28%	15%	10%
Somewhat approve	9	28	21	6
Somewhat disapprove	14	17	18	13
Strongly disapprove	62	7	29	61
DK/NA	12	20	17	10

There are differences by age as well. Americans under age 30 are the most likely of any age group to approve of the law. Among those who are older, more disapprove of the law than approve of it.

	Views of the Health Care Law – by Age			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+
Strongly approve	13%	17%	16%	20%
Somewhat approve	30	19	17	13
Somewhat disapprove	20	19	15	13
Strongly disapprove	17	31	35	37
DK/NA	20	14	17	17

This poll was conducted by telephone from March 21-25, 2012 among 986 adults nationwide. Phone numbers were dialed from samples of both standard land-line and cell phones. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points. The error for subgroups may be higher. This poll release conforms to the Standards of Disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
Health Care Law
March 21-25, 2012

q2 From what you've heard or read, do you approve or disapprove of the health care law that was enacted in 2010?

IF APPROVE, ASK: Do you strongly approve or somewhat approve?

IF DISAPPROVE, ASK: Do you somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

***** Party ID *****

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Strongly approve	16	3	28	15
Somewhat approve	20	9	28	21
Somewhat disapprove	17	14	17	18
Strongly disapprove	30	62	7	29
Don't know/No answer	17	12	20	17

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents:	986	
Total Republicans	254	248 (25%)
Total Democrats	350	318 (32%)
Total Independents	382	420 (43%)

