



Kentuckians' views on the Affordable Care Act

The **Kentucky Health Issues Poll (KHIP)** has tracked Kentuckians' views about the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) since it became law in March 2010.

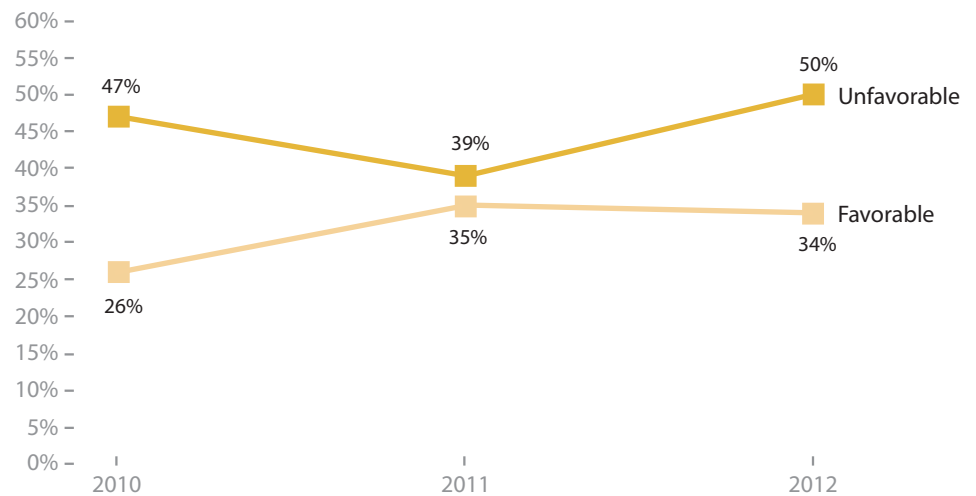
In June 2012, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the ACA, but it remains the subject of debate. This year, KHIP asked Kentuckians about the future of the law.

Half have unfavorable view of the ACA

About 4 in 10 Kentucky adults (41%) reported having enough information about the ACA to understand how it would affect them personally. Although this is an increase from previous years, it means that nearly 6 in 10 adults (58%) need more information to understand how the law would affect them personally.

Despite the need for more information about the law, about 1 in 3 Kentucky adults (34%) reported having a generally favorable view of the ACA, while half (50%) had a generally unfavorable view. Another 1 in 6 Kentucky adults (16%) expressed no opinion about the law.

Given what you know about the new health reform law, do you have a generally favorable or unfavorable opinion of it? (Percentages do not add to 100% because the response "don't know" is not included.)



While the percentage of respondents reporting favorable views of the law remained steady from 2011, more Kentuckians opposed the law in 2012.

Majority thinks ACA opponents should move on

Kentuckians were asked if opponents of the law should continue efforts to block the law or stop their efforts and move on to other national problems. The majority (55%) said opponents of the ACA should stop their efforts to block the law and move on to other national problems. About 1

Opponents of the healthcare law should ...

Stop their efforts to block the law from being implemented/move on to other national problems

55%

Continue their efforts to block the law from being implemented

35%

Don't know

10%

in 3 (35%) said opponents should continue their efforts to block the law, while 1 in 10 (10%) did not express an opinion.

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These findings unless otherwise noted are from the Kentucky Health Issues Poll, funded by the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky and The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati. The Kentucky Health Issues Poll was conducted Sept. 20-Oct. 14, 2012, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 1,680 adults from throughout Kentucky was interviewed by telephone. This included 1,360 landline interviews and 320 cell phone interviews with cell phone users. In 95 of 100 cases, the statewide estimates will be accurate to $\pm 2.5\%$. There are other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects that can introduce error or bias.

For more information about the Kentucky Health Issues Poll, please visit www.healthy-ky.org or www.healthfoundation.org/kentucky-health-issues-poll.

Views mixed on next steps for Congress regarding law

Kentuckians had a variety of opinions when asked what Congress should do next with the ACA.

More than 1 in 4 Kentucky adults (28%) said Congress should expand the law, and about 1 in 5 (19%) wanted to keep the law as it is.

Another 1 in 4 (23%) said Congress should repeal the law, and about 1 in 5 (19%) wanted to repeal the law and replace it with a Republican-sponsored alternative. In each case, these results are similar to results for the nation.¹

What would you like to see Congress do when it comes to the healthcare law?	Kentucky	U.S.A. ¹
Expand the law	28%	26%
Keep the law as is	19%	23%
Repeal the law and not replace it	23%	20%
Repeal the law/replace it with a Republican-sponsored alternative	19%	20%
Don't know	11%	11%

¹National results are from the Kaiser Health Tracking Polls from August 2012. For more details visit <http://www.kff.org/kaiserpolls/8342.cfm>