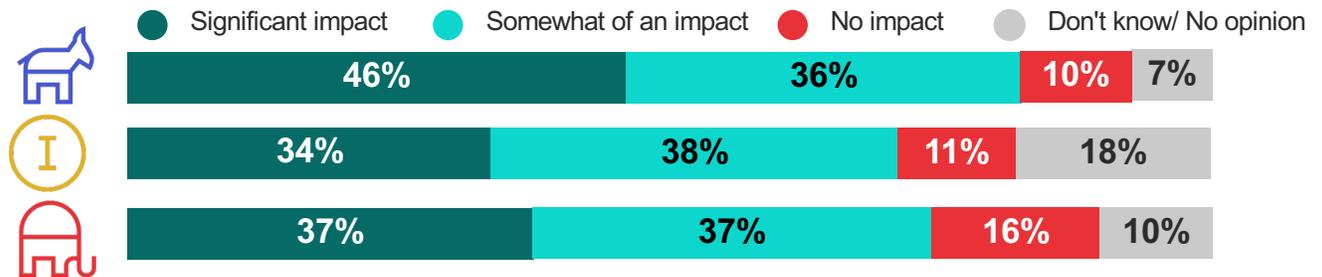


TO: CSRxP  
 FR: Morning Consult  
 DT: February 2022  
 RE: Impact of Prescription Drug Prices

**DRUG PRICES ARE AN IMPORTANT MIDTERM ELECTION ISSUE**

- Ninety-one percent of voters report that prescription drug prices are an important issues for them in the midterm elections, more than the COVID-19 pandemic (87%), including more than half of voters (53%) who report it is *very important*.
- Three-in-four voters report that it will impact their vote if Congress fails to pass solutions to lower drug prices, including 40% who say it would have a *significant impact*.
  - This failure to act on lowering prescription drugs could impact the vote of voters across the political spectrum. Eighty-two percent of Democrats, 72% of independents, and 77% of Republicans report it will impact their vote.



*If Congress fails to pass solutions to lower prescription drug prices how much of an impact would this have on your vote for offices like U S Senator and U S Representative in the next election?*

**VOTERS AGREE BOTH THE ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS MUST DO MORE TO LOWER DRUG PRICES**

- Sixty-five percent of voters feel President Biden has not done enough to address to lower drug prices, including a majority of Democrats (51%), independents (68%), and Republicans (78%).
- Similarly, 72% of voters feel Congress has not done enough to address to lower drug prices, including 63% of Democrats, 75% of independents, and 80% of Republicans.

**VOTERS BLAME THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY FOR RISING PRICES**

- When asked who was responsible for rising prescription drug prices, 87% of Voters said the pharmaceutical industry, including 60 percent who said the industry was *very responsible*.



*How responsible if at all are each of the following entities for the rising price of prescription drugs?*

Methodology This poll was conducted between January 20 - January 22, 2022 among a sample of 2005 Registered Voters. The interviews were conducted online and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of Registered Voters based on gender, educational attainment, age, race, and region. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of plus or minus 2 percentage points.

## VOTERS SUPPORT MARKET-BASED SOLUTIONS TO LOWER DRUG PRICES

- A majority of voters support drug pricing solutions being considered as part of the Build Back Better Act. When asked how important it is that Congress pass each of the following reforms:
  - 86% of voters said it was important for Congress to cap out-of-pocket costs for seniors.
  - 88% of voters said it was important to keep price increases below the rate of inflation.
  - 87% of voters said it was important to reform Medicare Part D to make pharmaceutical companies contribute significant cost-sharing in the catastrophic phase of coverage.
- Four in five voters (79%) agree that federal agencies, like the U.S. Patent and Trade Office and U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), should encourage greater competition in the prescription drug marketplace.
- Three-quarters of voters (76%) also feel it is important that Congress consider solutions to increase competition in the prescription drug marketplace, including combating tactics like 'patent thickening' and 'product-hopping.'

## VOTERS BLAME THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY OVER PBMS

- When voters were asked which statement came closer to their opinion, a majority of voters agreed with the statement that placed responsibility on the pharmaceutical industry rather than PBMs.

**58%**

*Pharmaceutical companies game the system to undermine competition from more affordable alternatives in the market and are responsible for setting and hiking prescription drug prices. Their ad campaign amounts to a blame game meant to protect pharmaceutical industry profits. Lawmakers must ignore this blame game and act to hold the pharmaceutical industry accountable and lower drug prices.*

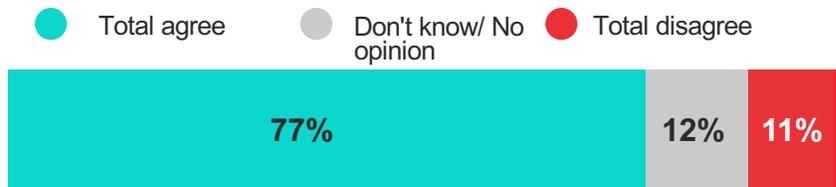
**21%**

*The pharmaceutical industry is right that pharmacy benefit managers, sometimes called middlemen in the supply chain, cause higher prices by distorting incentives in the marketplace and pocket dollars that could otherwise be passed through to patients as savings. Lawmakers should listen to the pharmaceutical industry and hold others in the supply chain accountable.*

## A MAJORITY OF VOTERS SUPPORT CMS' COVERAGE DECISION ON ADUHELM

- More than three-quarters of voters (77%) agree clinical value and likely cost should be considered in FDA approval decisions for new medications.

*When considering whether or not to approve a new medication for public use in the U.S. market do you agree or disagree federal regulators at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration should consider both a medication's clinical value for patients and its likely cost to patients and the U.S. health system?*



- Eighty-six percent of voters agree “lawmakers must implement protections to ensure medications approved by regulators have clinical value for patients — in other words, that the medication has strong evidence of supporting positive outcomes for patient conditions it is meant to treat.”
- Seven in ten voters also agree (72%) the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) should weigh clinical value in deciding how broadly to cover a medication.
- A majority of voters (56%) agree with CMS' recent decision to cover Aduhelm only for Medicare beneficiaries who are participating in clinical trials while more data is gathered on the medication's clinical value, compared to 25% who disagree.

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