

Key Findings

A survey of more than 500 registered voters in Maine found that most residents of the state expect the government to intervene in health care mergers that have the potential to make medical care even more expensive.

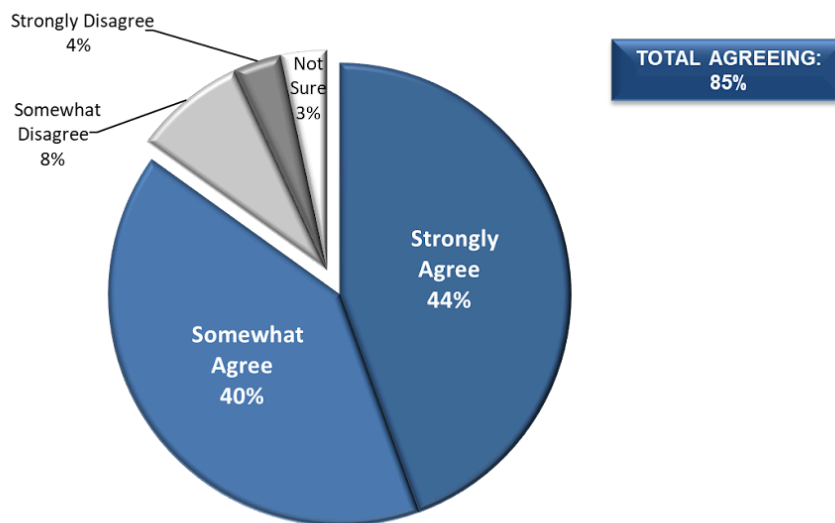
Views Towards the State's Role in Overseeing Health Care Transactions

Very large majorities of voters in Maine believe the state government has a role in ensuring access to health care, maintaining transparency of hospital ownership, and ensuring that health care mergers do not adversely impact local communities.

- At least eight out of ten surveyed voters agree it is the state government's responsibility to ensure that all Mainers have access to affordable health care, even if that means regulating health care companies (85%).

Perceptions of the State Government's Role in Ensuring Access to Affordable Health Care

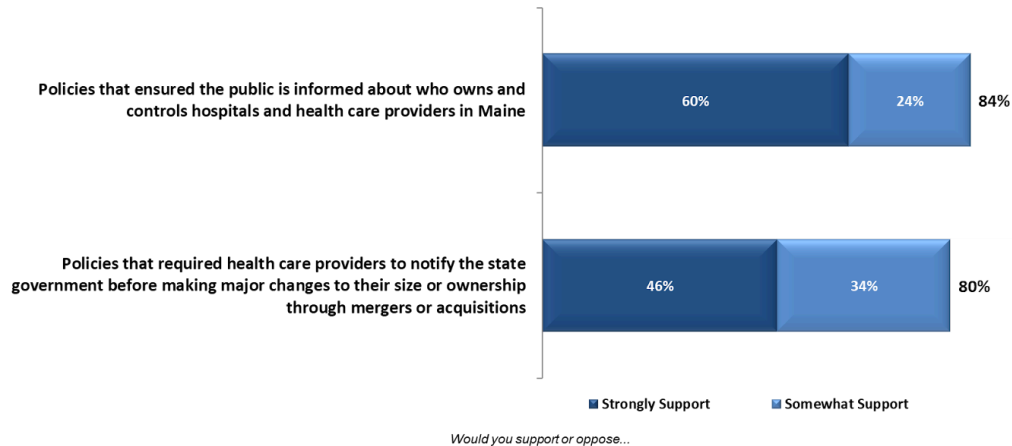
"It is the state government's responsibility to ensure that all Mainers have access to affordable health care, even if it means the government sometimes has to step in to regulate health care companies or provide oversight of health care mergers"



To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

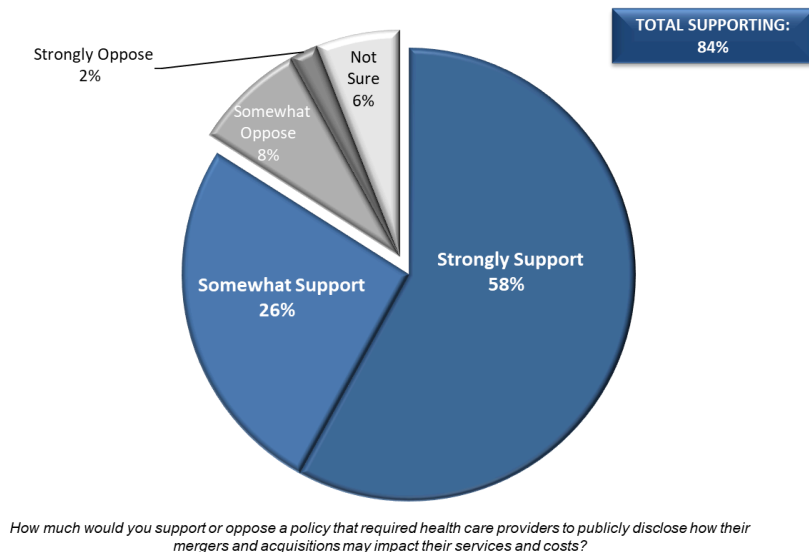
- Another eight out of ten voters support policies that would require health care facilities to disclose their ownership to the public (84%) or notify the state when major changes to their ownership occur (80%).

Support for Policies That Would Ensure Transparency in Health Care Facility Ownership in Maine



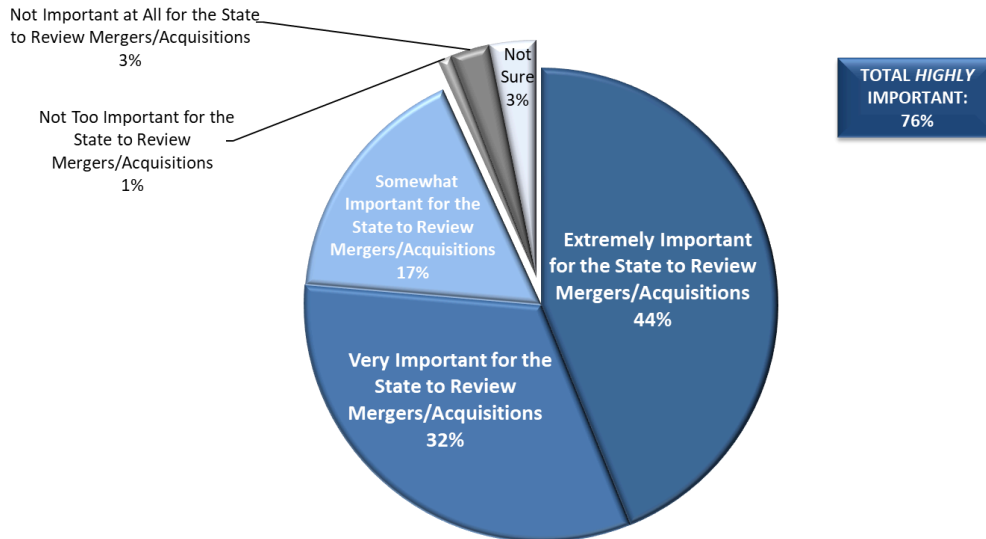
- Eight out of ten voters also support requiring local health care providers to disclose how a merger or acquisition would impact their services or costs (84%), with a clear majority *strongly* supporting a mandate for that sort of disclosure (58%).

Support for a Policy Requiring Health Care Providers to Disclose Consolidation's Impact on Services and Costs



- In addition, almost all voters believe it's important for the state government to review health care mergers and acquisitions in order to ensure that changes in ownership do not reduce access and quality of care (93%). In fact, a large share of voters – three out of four overall – believe it is *very* (32%) or *extremely* (44%) important for the state government to review health care mergers.

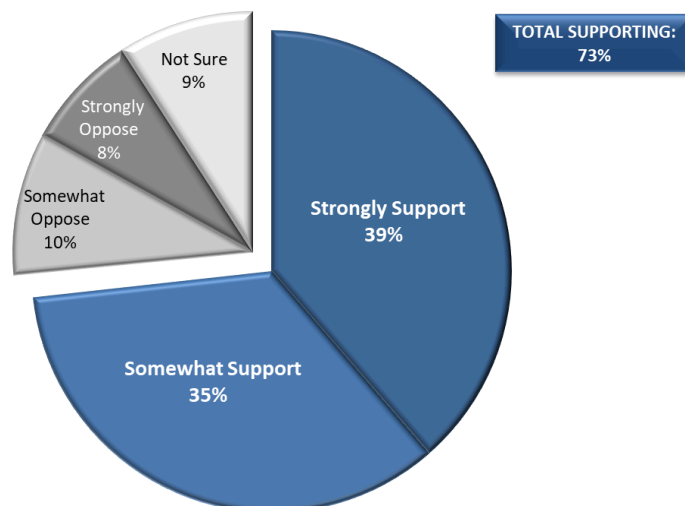
Importance of State Government Review of Health Care Mergers



In general, how important do you believe it is for Maine's government to be able to review health care mergers and acquisitions to ensure that changes in ownership do not reduce access and quality of care?

- Finally, another three out of four voters support allowing the state to intervene in health care mergers and acquisitions if that consolidation is expected to harm consumers through reduced competition or increased costs (73%).

Support for Allowing the State to Intervene in Health Care Mergers



How much would you support or oppose a policy that allows a state agency to reject or modify proposed health care mergers and acquisitions, if those mergers are expected to reduce competition or increase costs?

Methodology and Participant Demographics

The survey was conducted online by Digital Research, Inc. between April 4 and April 28, 2025 and was supported by United States of Care Action, a nonpartisan health care advocacy group.

A total of 504 participants completed the 15-minute survey. All survey participants were residents of Maine who are registered to vote in the state.

The total results have a margin of sampling error of +/- 4.3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. The data reflect the demographics of the state's population on key demographic measures.

Gender	
Male	49%
Female	51%
Some other gender	<0.5%

Employment Status	
Employed full-time	41%
Employed part-time	9%
Retired	24%
Unable to work due to medical, health, or other issues	8%
Self-employed	7%
Not employed, looking for work	4%
Not employed, not looking for work	2%
Stay-at-home parent or caregiver	4%
Student	1%

Household Owns a Small Business	
Yes	16%
No	84%

Race	
White or Caucasian	97%
Black or African American	2%
American Indian	2%
Asian	1%
Alaska Native	<0.5%
Middle Eastern or North African	<0.5%
Other	1%

Ethnicity	
Hispanic origin or descent	2%

Household Income	
Under \$25,000	18%
\$25,000 to \$49,999	20%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	17%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	16%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	15%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	6%
\$200,000 or more	5%

Congressional District	
District 1	50%
District 2	50%

County	
Cumberland	19%
York	18%
Penobscot	11%
Androscoggin	8%
Kennebec	8%
Aroostook	7%
Oxford	5%
Knox	4%
Sagadahoc	4%
Waldo	3%
Somerset	3%
Piscataquis	2%
Lincoln	2%
Washington	2%
Hancock	1%
Franklin	1%

Presence of a Disability in Household	
Participant has a disability	24%
Someone else in household has disability	19%

Have Health Insurance Coverage	
Yes	93%
No	7%

Source of Health Insurance Coverage	
An employer	32%
Medicare	29%
MaineCare/Medicaid	25%
Veterans Administration/Military	4%
CoverME.gov/Directly from insurance company	4%
Parent's health plan	3%
Union	1%
Another source	2%
Not sure	<0.5%

Age	
18-34	24%
35-44	14%
45-54	17%
55-64	17%
65+	28%
AVERAGE	50

Education	
High school graduate or less	39%
Some college, vocational degree, or an Associate's degree	31%
Bachelor's degree	20%
Post graduate work or advanced degree	10%

Political Party Affiliation	
Democrat	36%
Republican	28%
Unenrolled, independent, or enrolled in another party	36%

Number of <u>Adults</u> in Household	
1	20%
2	54%
3	17%
4	6%
5	2%
6 or more	1%

Number of <u>Children</u> in Household	
0	73%
1	15%
2	8%
3	3%
4	1%
5	<0.5%
6 or more	<0.5%