

Key Findings

A survey of more than 500 registered voters in Minnesota found that residents of the state are troubled by the high costs of health care and widely believe that costs for medical treatment are higher than they need to be. Large majorities believe transparency in hospital pricing and state oversight of hospital spending would help bring down hospital prices.

Nine out of ten registered Minnesota voters support government policies that ensure transparency in hospital ownership, and eight out of ten support policies that ensure transparency in hospital spending or that prevent profit motives from impacting medical care.

At least three out of four registered voters believe the state government should ensure health care is affordable and accessible for all Minnesotans. Another three out of four would be more likely to support elected officials who voted to require increased financial transparency from hospitals.

Views Towards Health Care Costs

Costs are – by far – the most common health care concern for voters in Minnesota.

- Roughly half of registered voters in this survey volunteer cost as the one thing they'd most want to change about health care in the state (47%). In contrast, no other issue is raised by more than one out of ten voters.

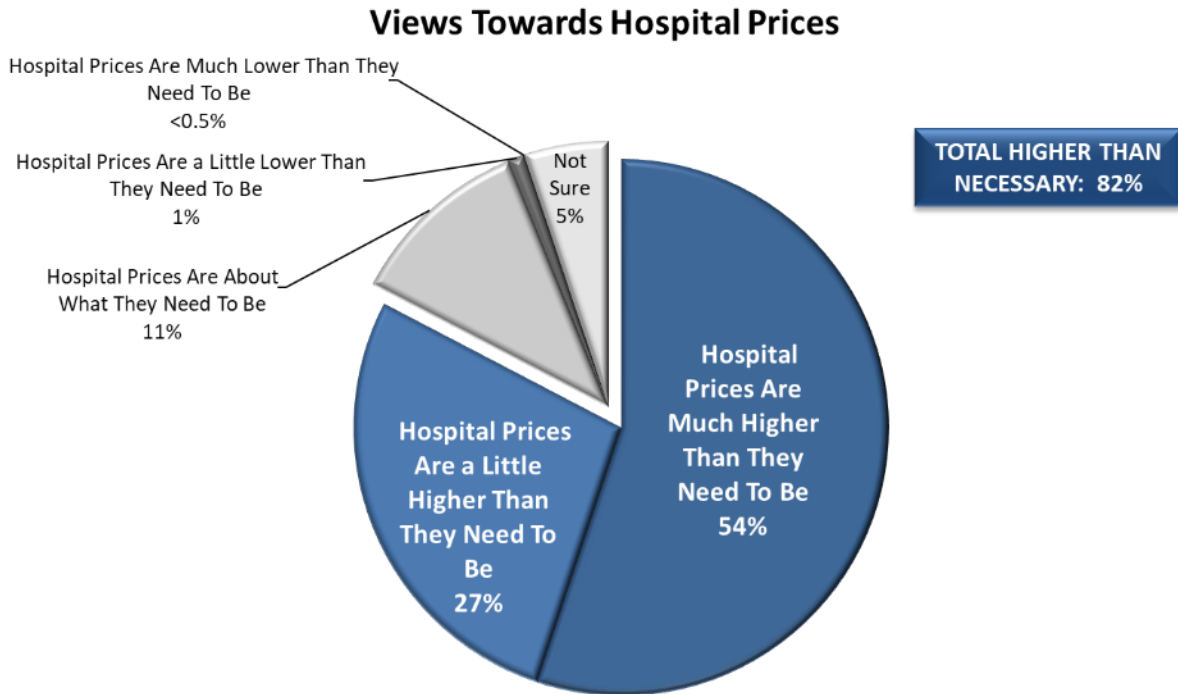
Desired Changes to the Health Care System in Minnesota

(Top mentions)

Lower costs	47%
Increase accessibility – Allow easier, better access to health care, especially for lower-income Minnesotans	10%
Nothing / Fine as-is / No change needed / Positive mentions of health care in Minnesota	9%
Improve insurance – Provide better coverage, benefits, and choices / Need better dental, vision coverage	6%
Reduce wait times for care – Provide easier, better access to doctors, clinics	5%
Increase transparency, clarity, and ease of understanding of bills and other information	5%

Adding to their general concern about health care costs, many voters in Minnesota do not trust that the care they receive in hospitals is cost-effective.

- Eight out of ten registered voters believe the prices charged by hospitals in Minnesota are typically higher than they need to be (82%), including half who feel hospital prices are *much* higher than they need to be (54%).

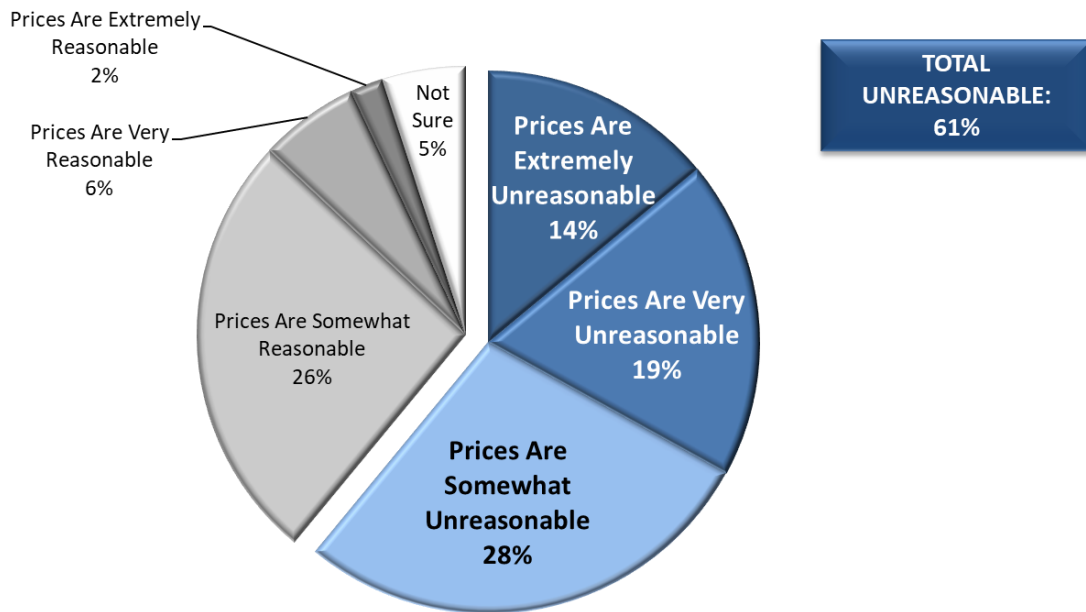


- Voters who have commercial insurance are more likely than others to believe hospital prices are higher than they need to be (89% vs. 74%).

- In addition, six out of ten registered voters believe the prices hospitals charge have little direct relationship to the actual costs of providing care: 29% believe hospital charges in Minnesota are *not at all* reflective of actual costs, and 31% of all voters believe hospital prices are only *slightly* reflective of costs.
 - Voters with commercial insurance are more likely than others to believe the prices hospitals charge for their services are only minimally reflective of their costs (70% vs. 49%).

- An additional six out of ten registered voters consider hospital prices in Minnesota to be unreasonable (61%), with many believing they are *extremely* (14%) or *very* unreasonable (19%).

Views Towards Reasonableness of Hospital Charges



- Commercially insured voters are more likely than others to believe hospital prices are *very* or *extremely* unreasonable (68% vs. 52%).

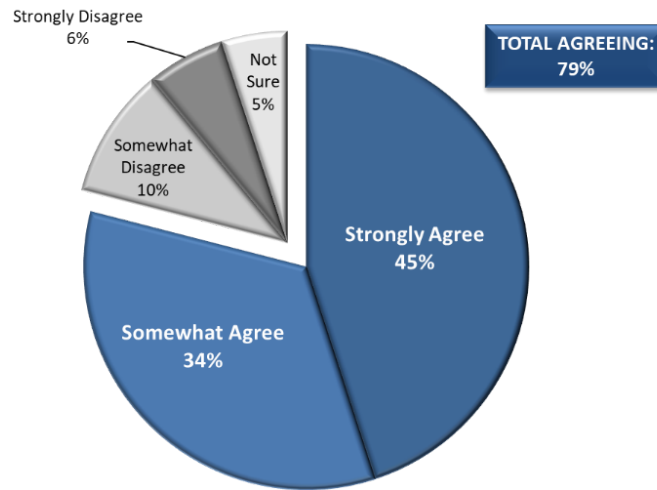
The State Government's Role in Lowering Health Care Costs

Minnesotans of all political affiliations want the state government to address the high costs of health care.

- Eight out of ten registered voters agree it is the government's responsibility to ensure that all Minnesotans have access to affordable health care, even if that means regulating health care companies (79%). Almost half *strongly* agree that the government should ensure all Minnesotans have access to affordable health care (45%).

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

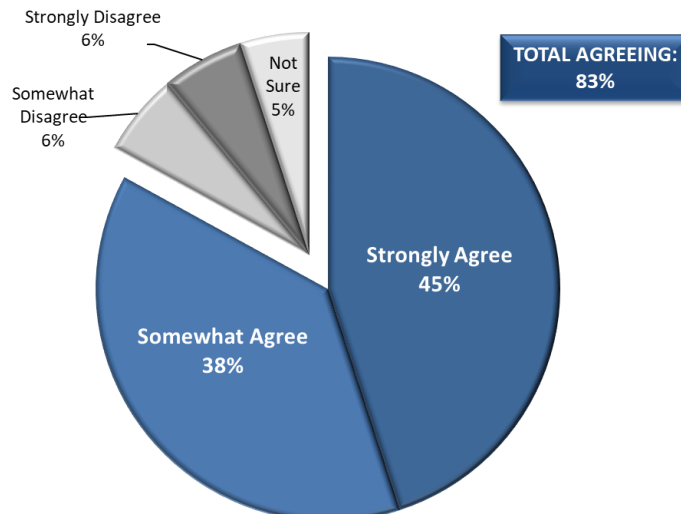
"It is the government's responsibility to ensure that all Minnesotans have access to affordable health care, even if it means sometimes stepping in to regulate health care companies."



- Another eight out of ten registered voters believe the state government should play a more active role in regulating health care costs (83%), with almost half *strongly* agreeing the state should play a more active role in regulating costs (45%).

Perceptions of the State Government's Role in Regulating Health Care Prices

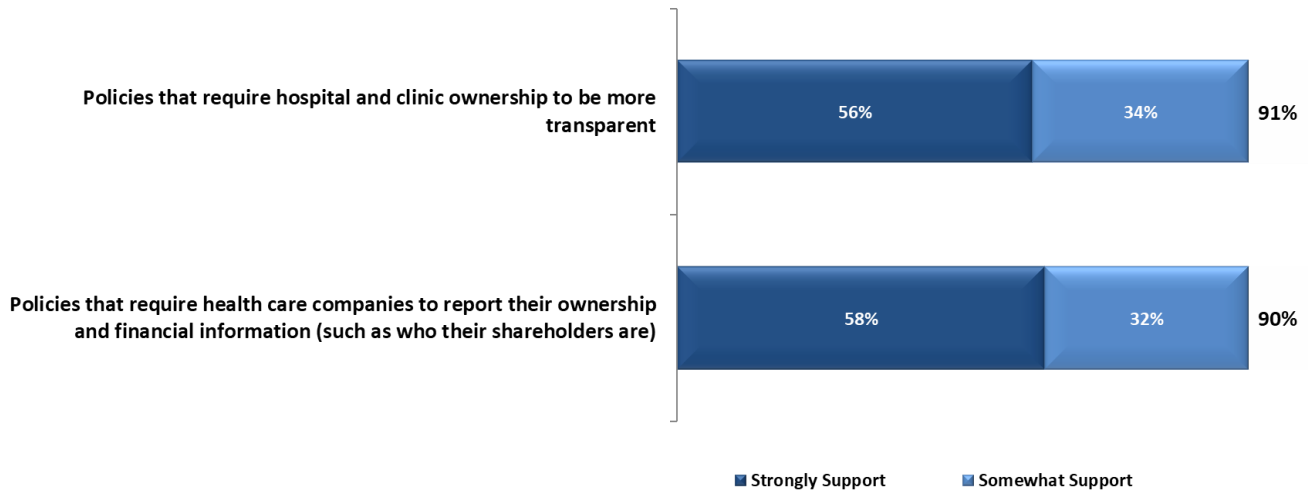
"The government in Minnesota should play a more active role in regulating health care prices to stop big health systems from charging Minnesotans more than they need to."



Minnesotans also broadly support government regulation of health care consolidation.

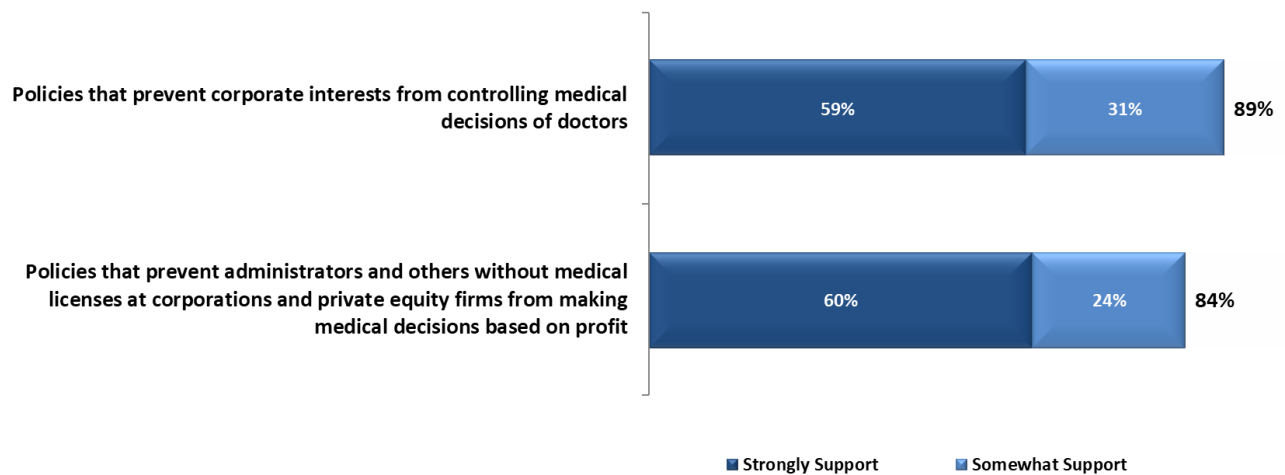
- Almost all surveyed registered Minnesota voters support governmental policies that ensure transparency in hospital ownership (91%) or that require health care companies to report their ownership (90%). About six out of ten *strongly* support those policies.

Support for Policies That Ensure Transparency in Hospital Ownership



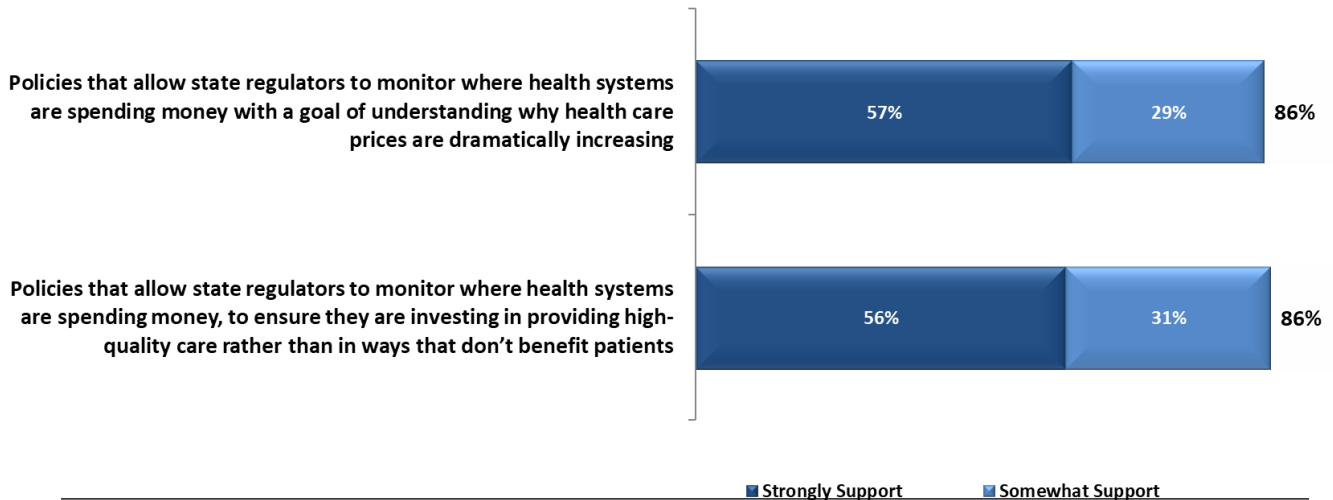
- Nine out of ten Minnesotans support policies that prevent corporate interests from controlling medical decisions of doctors (89%), and at least eight out of ten support policies that prevent profit goals from impacting medical care (84%).

Support for Policies Ensuring Autonomy of Practitioners



- Likewise, almost nine out of ten registered voters in Minnesota support policies that would ensure transparency in hospital spending – whether to show why hospital prices are increasing (86%) or to ensure that hospitals are investing in patient care (86%). Notable majorities – about six out of ten – *strongly* support those policies.

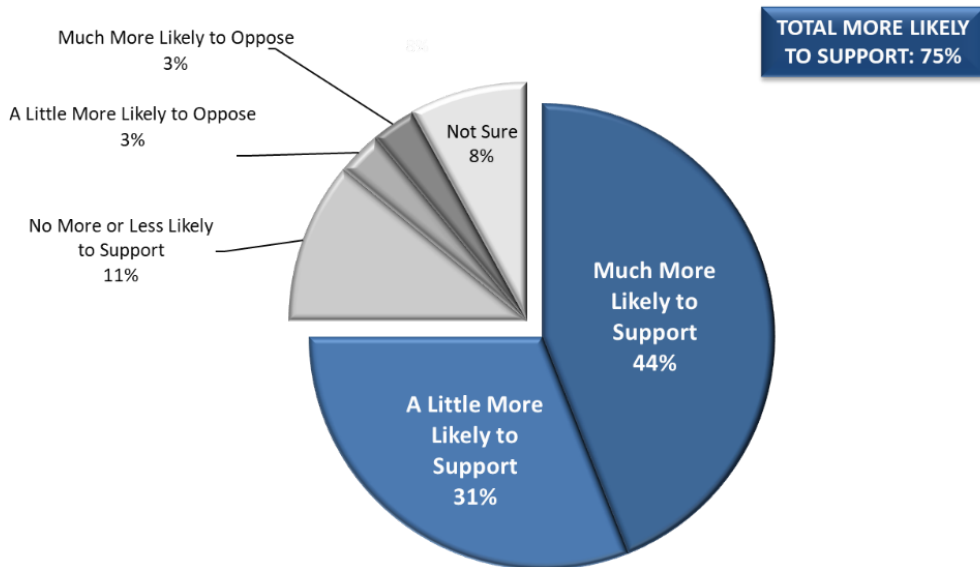
Support for Policies That Would Ensure Transparency in Hospital Spending



Elected officials could benefit from responding to the widespread desire for hospital transparency.

- Three out of four registered voters would be more likely to support an elected official who voted to require increased financial transparency from hospitals (75%). Four out of ten would be *much* more likely to support such an official (44%).

Support for Officials Who Vote for Increased Transparency in Hospital Finances



Methodology and Participant Demographics

The survey was conducted online by Digital Research, Inc. between February 26 and March 16, 2025, and was supported by United States of Care Action, a nonpartisan health care advocacy group.

A total of 505 participants completed the 15-minute survey. All survey participants were registered to vote in Minnesota.

The total results have a margin of sampling error of +/- 4.4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level; subgroups will have a higher margin of error. The data reflects the demographics of the state's population on key demographic measures.

Gender		Education		Race/Ethnicity		Marital Status	
Male	50%	Some high school or less	3%	White or Caucasian	84%	Married / living with a partner	55%
Female	50%	High school graduate or GED	26%	Black or African American	9%	Single, not living with a partner	30%
Non-binary/Prefer not to say	1%	Some college, vocational school, or an Associate's degree	31%	American Indian/Alaska native	5%	Divorced, widowed or separated	13%
Age		Bachelor's degree	26%	Asian	6%	Prefer not to answer	1%
18 to 24	11%	Postgraduate work or an advanced degree	14%	Middle Eastern or North African	<0.5%	Number in Household	
25 to 34	17%			Something else	3%		Adults
35 to 44	18%			Prefer to not say	<0.5%		Children
45 to 54	15%			Hispanic Origin or Descent			
55 to 64	16%			Yes	6%		
65+	23%			No	94%		
Average	48 yrs						

Employment Status		Household Income		Political Party		Ideology	
Employed full-time	45%	Under \$15,000	6%	Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party	43%	Strong conservative	10%
Retired	22%	\$15,000 – \$19,999	3%	Republican Party of MN	30%	Moderate conservative	24%
Employed part-time	10%	\$20,000 – \$24,999	3%	Libertarian Party of MN	1%	Equally conservative and liberal / independent	19%
Self-employed	7%	\$25,000 – \$29,999	4%	Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis Party	<0.5%	Moderate liberal	26%
Unemployed, looking for work	5%	\$30,000 – \$34,999	3%	Minnesota Legal Marijuana Now! Party	1%	Strong liberal	14%
Student	4%	\$35,000 – \$39,999	3%	Some other party	11%	None of the above	2%
Stay-at-home / unpaid caregiver	3%	\$40,000 – \$44,999	2%	Not sure	13%	Not sure	3%
Disabled, unable to work	3%	\$45,000 – \$49,999	4%			Political Spectrum	
Unemployed, not looking for work	1%	\$50,000 – \$54,999	6%			Strongly support Republican views	2%
Something else	<0.5%	\$55,000 – \$59,999	3%			Lean towards Republican views	16%
		\$60,000 – \$69,999	8%			Lean about equally towards Republican and Democratic views	36%
		\$70,000 – \$99,999	13%			Lean towards Democratic views	19%
		\$100,000 – \$149,999	20%			Strongly support Democratic views	9%
		\$150,000 – \$199,999	10%			Not sure	17%
		\$200,000 or more	12%				
		Not sure	1%				
		Prefer not to say	1%				

County	
Hennepin	30%
Anoka	10%
Dakota	8%
Ramsey	7%
Saint Louis	4%
Scott	3%
Washington	3%
Olmsted	3%
Stearns	2%
Clay	2%
Houston	2%
Meeker	2%
Blue Earth	2%
Winona	2%
Becker	1%
Benton	1%
Carver	1%
Cass	1%
Chisago	1%
Crow Wing	1%

County (Cont.)	
Douglas	1%
Isanti	1%
Itasca	1%
Le Sueur	1%
McLeod	1%
Mower	1%
Nicollet	1%
Pine	1%
Sherburne	1%
Todd	1%
Wright	1%

Counties represented by less than 1% of participants are not shown.

Area of Residence	
Rural	25%
Suburban	54%
Urban	21%
Not sure	1%