

THE FIELD POLL

THE INDEPENDENT AND NON-PARTISAN SURVEY
OF PUBLIC OPINION ESTABLISHED IN 1947 AS
THE CALIFORNIA POLL BY MERVIN FIELD

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AS INSECURITIES WITH THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM GROW, CALIFORNIANS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE STATE'S FAILURE TO ENACT HEALTH REFORM LEGISLATION.

by Mark DiCamillo and Mervin Field

California voters report growing insecurities about the workings of the state's health care system according to a new Field Health Policy Survey, and nearly three in four (73%) say they are concerned about the state's failure to enact health reform legislation.

The new survey funded by a grant from The California Wellness Foundation, updated a previous Field Health Policy Survey completed in December 2006. The findings show that a growing proportion of voters express concerns about the state's health care system. For example . . .

- 59% of voters now say they are very concerned about not being able to pay for all the costs associated with a major illness or injury, up from 48% who said this in late 2006.
- 58% report being very concerned about having to pay more out of pocket for their health insurance coverage (up from 40%).
- A 57% majority of voters are very concerned about either not having or potentially losing their health care coverage (up from 48%). A similar 59% are very concerned about the possibility of their insurance provider canceling or severely limiting their coverage due to a health condition.
- About half of voters (51%) now say they are very concerned about not having access to quality doctors and health care services (up from 40%).

Three times as many Californians expect the health care system to be worse in five years as think it will be better. There is no clear consensus as to whether the federal or state government is better suited to bring about the changes needed in our health care system.

Voters in the survey were asked about the state's health reform package, which was the end product of long negotiations between the Governor and the legislative leadership. The legislation was approved by the state Assembly last year but died in the state Senate. After being read its major elements, greater than seven in ten voters (72%) say they approved of the plan overall. In addition, large majorities backed most of the package's specific provisions, such as requiring health insurance companies to offer coverage to anyone without regard to their health condition, requiring employers to help pay for their employees' health coverage and requiring that all Californians obtain a minimum level of health coverage.

These are the main findings from the 2008 Field Health Policy Survey completed March 12-30 among a random sample of 1,202 registered voters statewide. Specific findings from the survey are summarized below and presented in two main parts. Part 1 updates California voter opinions and concerns about the health care system in general, while part 2 reports on voter reactions to the health reform legislation proposed by the governor and the state legislature last year.

CALIFORNIANS' CONCERNS WITH THE STATE'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Satisfaction – dissatisfaction divide

Voter opinions of the state's health care system are divided. While half (50%) say they are either very or somewhat satisfied with it, nearly as many (46%) are somewhat or very dissatisfied. These results are generally similar to those found in 2006, when 51% expressed satisfaction with the system and 44% were dissatisfied.

Levels of satisfaction with the health care system are related to a person's health insurance status and their degree of concern about going without health coverage in the future. Those currently without health insurance coverage report the lowest levels of satisfaction (39%), while those with insurance and who are not being concerned about losing their coverage in the future report the highest level of satisfaction (70%).

Growing concerns with some of the major aspects of the state's health care system

More voters now report being concerned about some of the major aspects of the state's health care system than felt this way in 2006. For example,

- 59% of voters are now very concerned about not being able to pay for all the costs associated with a major illness or injury, up from 48% who said this in 2006.
- 58% also report being very concerned about having to pay more out of pocket for their health insurance coverage, up from 40% in 2006.

- A 57% majority of voters are also very concerned about either not having or potentially losing their health care coverage, up from 48% who expressed these concerns in 2006. A similar 59% are very concerned about the possibility of their insurance provider canceling or severely limiting their coverage due to a health condition. (This question was not asked in the earlier 2006 survey.)
- About half of voters (51%) now say they are very concerned about not having access to quality doctors and health care services, up from 40% who said this in 2006.

In addition, about half of California voters (49%), slightly more than 46% in 2006, report being very concerned about employers cutting back on the amount they contribute to their workers' health care coverage.

More expect the health care system to be worse than better in five years

Three times as many voters expect the state's health care system to be worse (39%) five years from now as think it will be better (13%). Another 38% believe things will remain about the same, while 10% have no opinion. These findings are similar to those observed in late 2006.

While employer-provided insurance still preferred, increase in voter support for government-provided coverage

About four in ten Californians (38%) feel they would be better off receiving their health insurance coverage from an employer. Thirty-one percent prefer receiving their health coverage from the government and 20% would rather take personal responsibility for this. However, compared to 2006, the proportion favoring employer-provided insurance declined slightly (from 42% to 38%). The proportion preferring to receive their health care coverage from the government grew from 22% to 31%. Support for the idea individuals taking personal responsibility declined over this period, from 26% to 20%.

There are some big differences in coverage preferences across subgroups of the state's voting population. Democrats and non-partisans are about evenly split between employer-provided and government provided coverage. Slightly less than four in ten endorse each, while relatively few prefer taking personal responsibility for this. On the other hand, relatively few Republicans favor government-provided coverage (16%), while 41% back employer-provided insurance and 32% support individuals taking personal responsibility for this.

Support for employer-provided coverage is greater among women than men. Younger voters are about evenly split between employer-provided coverage and government-provided coverage. A plurality of voters between ages 30 and 59 prefer employer-provided coverage, while seniors are about evenly split between favoring government-sponsored insurance and taking personal responsibility for this themselves.

No consensus as to whether the federal or state government is better suited to reform the health care system

A slightly larger proportion of Californians believes the federal government rather than the state government is better suited to reform the health care system, but the differences are not large. About four in ten (41%) favor the federal government enacting these changes, while 35% prefer the state government. Another 12% volunteer both equally, 8% say neither and 4% have no opinion.

Democrats are more likely to believe the federal government rather than the state government is better suited to reform the health care system (46% to 31%). Republicans and non-partisans are more evenly divided.

VIEWS OF CALIFORNIA'S 2007 HEALTH REFORM PACKAGE

Most voters favored the proposed health reform package

After being read a summary of the main provisions and funding sources of the health reform legislation approved by the state Assembly last year, but died in the Senate, nearly three in four voters (72%) say they supported the package overall. This includes 18% who favored it strongly and 54% favored it somewhat. Another 21% said they were opposed. Although majorities of voters across all subgroups favored the package, the greatest support came from voters under age 30, non-partisans, Democrats and women.

Large majorities backed most of the health reform package's specific provisions. For example...

- 84% favored requiring health insurance companies to offer coverage to anyone without regard to their health condition.
- 78% supported providing state tax credits to moderate-income people if they need to buy health insurance in the open market.
- 77% endorsed the idea of providing state-subsidized health insurance coverage to low-income adults.
- 73% favored the so-called "employer mandate," which would require all employers to help pay for their employees' health coverage on a sliding scale, with larger companies paying more and smaller companies paying less.
- 68% supported the idea of an "individual mandate," that would require all Californians to have a minimum level of health coverage either by purchasing it themselves or by obtaining it through an employer or government agency.

Three in four voters (76%) agreed that the proposed health reform plan would have provided more people with access to preventative care services which would improve health and ultimately reduce health care costs. Seventy-two percent agreed that the plan would have provided insured Californians with greater protections against losing their insurance if they lost their job or had a serious illness or accident. Another 56% agreed that the plan would have saved money by reducing the number of uninsured people who can only get their care at more expensive hospital emergency rooms.

Voters approved of most of the health reform plan's proposed funding mechanisms

Two in three voters (67%) approved the health reform plan's general approach of sharing the costs of health insurance among individuals, employers and government, rather than having this responsibility rest solely with government, employers or individuals. Four of the health reform plan's proposed new revenue sources were endorsed by large majorities of voters. These included:

- Getting more individuals currently without insurance to pay for a minimum level of health coverage with the amount paid based on family income levels (80% favor).
- Increasing the amount of federal government matching funds that California would receive under existing federal health care programs (79%).
- Requiring all employers to provide a minimum contribution toward their employees' health coverage, based on a company's size with larger companies paying more and smaller companies paying less (77%).
- Increasing state cigarette taxes by \$1.75 per pack (71%).

However, one proposed funding source, increasing hospital fees by 4%, was opposed by most voters (77%).

Voters skeptical about some elements of the health reform plan

Majorities of voters expressed some concerns with several elements of the health reform plan. For example, two in three voters (67%) agreed that the proposed new tax revenues designed to help the state pay for the costs of covering more people would not be enough to keep up with rising health care costs. In addition, 62% agreed that there were no real guarantees that the insurance policies which uninsured, moderate income people would be required to buy would have been affordable.

Varying reactions to the major participants in the health reform debate

Voters in the survey were asked whether they had a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the major participants in the health reform debate. Three groups fared the best in this setting – nurses and the Californian Nurses Association (53% favorable vs. 15% unfavorable), health advocacy and consumer groups (47% vs. 20%) and doctors and the California Medical Association (43% to 23%).

Voters expressed mixed views about the roles played by other individuals and groups. These included Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger (40% favorable vs. 40% unfavorable), hospitals and the California Hospital Association (33% favorable vs. 30% unfavorable), and labor leaders (32% favorable vs. 33% unfavorable).

By contrast, six other groups and individuals involved in the health reform debate received more negative than positive appraisals from the voting public. These include the news media (28% favorable vs. 46% unfavorable), business groups and the state Chamber of Commerce (25% favorable vs. 36% unfavorable), Republican leaders in the state legislature (22% favorable vs. 48% unfavorable), assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez (20% favorable vs. 29% unfavorable), State Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata (17% favorable vs. 28% unfavorable), and the state's major health insurance companies (16% favorable vs. 55% unfavorable).

Most voters are concerned about the state's failure to pass health reform last year

Nearly three in four voters (72%) say that the governor and legislature's failure to pass health reform legislation last year concerns them a great deal or somewhat. Just 26% report being only a little or not concerned. While majorities across all voter subgroups express some concern, Democrats and women are more likely to say the state's failure to pass health reform concerns them a great deal.

Notice to editors: Data from the survey are summarized in the attached graphics packet. In addition the statewide results and exact wording of all questions cited in this report are shown in a separate attachment.

Information About the Survey

This survey was conducted by *The Field Poll* under a grant from The California Wellness Foundation. The findings are based on a random sample survey of 1,202 California registered voters. Interviewing was conducted March 12-30, 2008 in English and Spanish from Field Research Corporation's central location telephone interviewing centers. Up to eight attempts were made to reach and interview each randomly selected voter on different days and times of day during the interviewing period.

The sample was developed from telephone listings of individual voters selected at random from a statewide list of registered voters in California. Once a voter's name and telephone number are selected, interviews are attempted only with the specific voter selected. Interviews are conducted on either a voter's landline phone or cell phone, depending on the preference of the voter. After the completion of interviewing, results were weighted slightly to *Field Poll* estimates of the demographic and regional characteristics of the state's registered voter population.

Sampling error estimates applicable to any probability-based survey depend upon its sample size. According to statistical theory, 95% of the time results from findings based on the total sample of 1,200 registered voters are subject to a maximum sampling error of 2.9 percentage points. The maximum sampling error is based on percentages in the middle of the sampling distribution (percentages around 50%). Percentages at either end of the distribution (percentages around 10% or around 90%) have a smaller margin of error.

There are other possible sources of error in any survey other than sampling error. Different results could occur because of differences in question wording, the sequencing of questions, the rigor with which sampling procedures were implemented, as well as through undetected errors or omissions in interviewing or data processing. Extensive efforts were made to minimize such potential errors.

About The California Wellness Foundation

The California Wellness Foundation is an independent, private foundation created in 1992, with a mission to improve the health of the people of California by making grants for health promotion, wellness education and disease prevention. The Foundation prioritizes eight issues for funding: diversity in the health professions, environmental health, healthy aging, mental health, teenage pregnancy prevention, violence prevention, women's health, and work and health. It also responds to timely issues or special projects outside these funding priorities.

For more information, visit the Foundation's website, www.tcwf.org. Contact: Gary L. Yates, President and CEO, or Cecilia Laiché, communications officer at (818) 702-1900.

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2008 Field Health Policy Survey – Marginal Results to Questions Asked –

(n = 1202 California
Registered voters)

| 1. | How satisfied are you with the way the health care system is working in California? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied? | VERY SATISFIED15% SOMEWHAT SATISFIED.....35 SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED.....25 VERY DISSATISFIED21 NO OPINION.....4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----|----|----|----|---|---|-----|----|----|---|---|---|-----|----|----|----|---|---|-----|----|---|----|---|---|-----|----|---|---|---|--|-----|----|----|---|---|
| 2. | Looking ahead, do you think that five years from now California's health care system will be better off, worse off or just about the same as now? | BETTER OFF13% WORSE OFF38 SAME AS NOW39 NO OPINION.....10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3. | I am going to read some concerns that people have about health care and for each, please tell me how much of a concern this is to you. (READ ITEMS IN RANDOM ORDER, ASKING:) Is this something you are very concerned about, somewhat concerned, not too concerned or not at all concerned about? | <table border="0" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>VERY</u> <u>CONCERNED</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>SOMEWHAT</u> <u>CONCERNED</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>NOT TOO</u> <u>CONCERNED</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>NOT AT ALL</u> <u>CONCERNED</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>NO</u> <u>OPINION</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">() a. not having or losing your health care coverage.....</td> <td style="text-align: center;">57%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">17</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">() b. not being able to pay for all the costs associated with a major illness or injury.....</td> <td style="text-align: center;">59%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">22</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">() c. not having access to quality doctors and health care services.....</td> <td style="text-align: center;">51%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">23</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">() d. employers cutting back on the amount they contribute to their workers' health care coverage.....</td> <td style="text-align: center;">49%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">() e. having to pay more out of pocket for your health insurance coverage.....</td> <td style="text-align: center;">58%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">*</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">() f. having your or a family member's health coverage canceled or severely limited by an insurance provider due to a health condition.....</td> <td style="text-align: center;">59%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">19</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | <u>VERY</u> <u>CONCERNED</u> | <u>SOMEWHAT</u> <u>CONCERNED</u> | <u>NOT TOO</u> <u>CONCERNED</u> | <u>NOT AT ALL</u> <u>CONCERNED</u> | <u>NO</u> <u>OPINION</u> | () a. not having or losing your health care coverage..... | 57% | 17 | 13 | 12 | 1 | () b. not being able to pay for all the costs associated with a major illness or injury..... | 59% | 22 | 12 | 6 | 1 | () c. not having access to quality doctors and health care services..... | 51% | 23 | 13 | 11 | 1 | () d. employers cutting back on the amount they contribute to their workers' health care coverage..... | 49% | 30 | 9 | 10 | 2 | () e. having to pay more out of pocket for your health insurance coverage..... | 58% | 30 | 6 | 6 | * | () f. having your or a family member's health coverage canceled or severely limited by an insurance provider due to a health condition..... | 59% | 19 | 12 | 9 | 1 |
| | <u>VERY</u> <u>CONCERNED</u> | <u>SOMEWHAT</u> <u>CONCERNED</u> | <u>NOT TOO</u> <u>CONCERNED</u> | <u>NOT AT ALL</u> <u>CONCERNED</u> | <u>NO</u> <u>OPINION</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| () a. not having or losing your health care coverage..... | 57% | 17 | 13 | 12 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| () b. not being able to pay for all the costs associated with a major illness or injury..... | 59% | 22 | 12 | 6 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| () c. not having access to quality doctors and health care services..... | 51% | 23 | 13 | 11 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| () d. employers cutting back on the amount they contribute to their workers' health care coverage..... | 49% | 30 | 9 | 10 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| () e. having to pay more out of pocket for your health insurance coverage..... | 58% | 30 | 6 | 6 | * | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| () f. having your or a family member's health coverage canceled or severely limited by an insurance provider due to a health condition..... | 59% | 19 | 12 | 9 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4. | Who do you think should pay for health insurance? Should insurance costs be mostly paid for by individuals, mostly by employers, mostly by the government, or should insurance costs be shared by individuals, employers and the government? | MOSTLY INDIVIDUALS.....8% MOSTLY EMPLOYERS.....8 MOSTLY GOVERNMENT.....14 SHARED BY INDIVIDUALS, EMPLOYERS AND GOVERNMENT67 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

* Less than ½ of 1%

5. Which level of government do you think is better suited to enact the kinds of changes needed in our health care system – the federal government or state government?
- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| FEDERAL GOVERNMENT | 41% |
| STATE GOVERNMENT | 35 |
| BOTH | 12 |
| NEITHER | 8 |
| NO OPINION..... | 4 |
6. As you know, the governor and state legislature tried but failed to enact major health insurance reform legislation last year. How closely were you following news about the governor’s and state legislature’s efforts to reform the California health care system over the past 12 months – very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?
- | | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| VERY CLOSELY..... | 17% |
| SOMEWHAT CLOSELY | 44 |
| NOT TOO CLOSELY | 26 |
| NOT AT ALL CLOSELY..... | 13* |
| NO OPINION..... | |
7. Does the fact that the governor and legislature were not able to pass health reform legislation last year concern you a great deal, somewhat, a little or not at all?
- | | |
|------------------|-----|
| GREAT DEAL..... | 34% |
| SOMEWHAT | 39 |
| A LITTLE | 13 |
| NOT AT ALL | 13 |
| NO OPINION..... | 1 |
8. I am going to read some elements that were contained in the proposed health reform plan. Please tell me whether you favor or oppose each one? (READ ITEMS IN RANDOM ORDER, ASKING:) Do you favor this strongly, favor it somewhat, oppose it somewhat, or oppose it strongly?

| | <u>STRONGLY</u> <u>FAVOR</u> | <u>SOMEWHAT</u> <u>FAVOR</u> | <u>SOMEWHAT</u> <u>OPPOSE</u> | <u>STRONGLY</u> <u>OPPOSE</u> | <u>NO</u> <u>OPINION</u> |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| () a. requiring health insurance companies to offer coverage to anyone without regard to their health condition | 57% | 27 | 8 | 6 | 2 |
| () b. providing state-subsidized health insurance coverage to low income adults..... | 43% | 34 | 12 | 9 | 2 |
| () c. requiring employers to help pay for their employees’ health coverage on a sliding scale, with larger companies paying more and smaller companies paying less | 37% | 36 | 13 | 11 | 3 |
| () d. requiring all Californians to have a minimum level of health coverage either by purchasing it themselves or by obtaining it through an employer or government agency | 37% | 31 | 15 | 14 | 3 |
| () e. providing state tax credits to moderate income people if they needed to buy health insurance in the open market | 42% | 36 | 10 | 7 | 5 |
| () f. providing health coverage to an estimated 3 million California adults currently without insurance by sharing costs and extending coverage among employers, government and individuals | 35% | 35 | 12 | 13 | 4 |
| () g. providing health coverage to an estimated 800,000 California children who are currently without health insurance by expanding existing state health insurance programs like Medi-Cal and Healthy Families | 54% | 24 | 10 | 9 | 3 |

* Less than ½ of 1%.

9. Several funding sources were proposed as ways for the state to help pay for the costs of providing more people with health coverage under the health reform plan. For each, please tell me whether you favor or oppose it. (READ ITEMS IN RANDOM ORDER, ASKING:) Do you favor this strongly, favor it somewhat, oppose it somewhat, or oppose it strongly as a way to help fund the proposed health reform plan?

| | <u>STRONGLY FAVOR</u> | <u>SOMEWHAT FAVOR</u> | <u>SOMEWHAT OPPOSE</u> | <u>STRONGLY OPPOSE</u> | <u>NO OPINION</u> |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| () a. requiring all employers to provide a minimum contribution toward their employee's health coverage based on a company's size, with larger companies paying more and smaller companies paying less | 44% | 33 | 10 | 11 | 2 |
| () b. increasing state cigarette taxes by 1 dollar and 75 cents per pack..... | 54% | 17 | 9 | 20 | 1 |
| () c. increasing hospital fees by 4 percent | 4% | 14 | 27 | 50 | 5 |
| () d. increasing the amount of federal matching funds that California receives under existing federal health care programs..... | 46% | 33 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| () e. getting more individuals currently without insurance to pay for a minimum level of their health coverage with the amount paid based on their family income | 38% | 42 | 10 | 8 | 2 |

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----|
| 10. Taking all the different elements of the proposed health reform plan together as a package, would you say that overall you favored it strongly, favored it somewhat, opposed it somewhat or opposed it strongly? | STRONGLY FAVOR | 18% |
| | SOMEWHAT FAVOR | 54 |
| | SOMEWHAT OPPOSE | 13 |
| | STRONGLY OPPOSE..... | 8 |
| | NO OPINION..... | 7 |

11. I am going to read some statements that have been made about the proposed health reform plan, and please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each. (READ ITEMS IN RANDOM ORDER, ASKING:) Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, disagree somewhat or disagree strongly?

| | <u>AGREE STRONGLY</u> | <u>AGREE SOMEWHAT</u> | <u>DISAGREE SOMEWHAT</u> | <u>DISAGREE STRONGLY</u> | <u>NO OPINION</u> |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| () a. There were no real guarantees that the insurance policies that uninsured, moderate income people would be required to buy under the proposed health reform plan would be affordable | 22% | 40 | 16 | 7 | 15 |
| () b. The proposed new tax revenues designed to help the state pay for the costs of providing more people with health coverage would not be enough to keep up with rising health care costs.... | 30% | 37 | 13 | 8 | 12 |
| () c. The proposed health reform plan would have provided insured Californians with greater protections against losing their insurance if they lost their job or had a serious illness or accident ... | 37% | 35 | 10 | 6 | 12 |
| () d. The proposed health reform plan would have saved money by reducing the number of uninsured people who can only get their care at more expensive hospital emergency rooms | 23% | 33 | 20 | 14 | 10 |
| () e. The proposed health reform plan would have provided more people with access to preventive care services which would improve health and ultimately reduce health care costs..... | 39% | 37 | 11 | 6 | 7 |

12. I am going to read some of the individuals and groups involved in the health reform debate last year. For each please tell me whether you have a generally favorable or unfavorable view of the role that each played in this debate. (READ ITEMS IN RANDOM ORDER, ASKING:) Do you have a generally favorable or unfavorable view of the role that (READ ITEM) played in the health reform debate?

| | FAVORABLE | UNFAVORABLE | NO OPINION |
|--|-----------|-------------|------------|
| () a. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger | 40% | 40 | 20 |
| () b. Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez..... | 20% | 29 | 51 |
| () c. State Senate President Don Perata | 17% | 28 | 55 |
| () d. Republican leaders in the state legislature..... | 22% | 48 | 30 |
| () e. Labor leaders..... | 32% | 33 | 36 |
| () f. Nurses and the California Nurses Association | 53% | 15 | 32 |
| () g. Doctors and the California Medical Association | 43% | 23 | 34 |
| () h. The state's major health insurance companies..... | 16% | 55 | 29 |
| () i. Business groups and the state Chamber of Commerce | 25% | 36 | 39 |
| () j. The news media | 28% | 46 | 26 |
| () k. Health advocacy and consumer groups | 47% | 20 | 33 |
| () l. Hospitals and the California Hospital Association..... | 33% | 30 | 37 |

13. Do you currently have any kind of health care coverage, including health insurance through your or your spouse's employer, a plan you buy independently, or through a government plan such as Medicare, Medi-Cal or Tri-Care? YES.....88%
NO 11
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED..... 1

IF YES OR DON'T KNOW, ASK: (n = 1081)

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 14. Have you or has anyone close to you been without health insurance coverage at any time in the past two years? | YES.....38% |
| | NO 61* |
| | NO OPINION..... |
| 15. How concerned are you that there could be a time in the near future when you or someone close to you will be without health insurance – very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned? | VERY CONCERNED52% |
| | SOMEWHAT CONCERNED..... 24 |
| | NOT TOO CONCERNED..... 13 |
| | NOT AT ALL CONCERNED..... 11* |
| | NO OPINION..... |

16. Do you think you and your family would be better off if you were to get health insurance coverage through an employer, from the government or having personal responsibility for getting your own coverage? EMPLOYER.....38%
GOVERNMENT 31
INDIVIDUAL 20
NO OPINION..... 11

* Less than 1/2 of 1%.

THE FIELD POLL

THE INDEPENDENT AND NON-PARTISAN SURVEY
OF PUBLIC OPINION ESTABLISHED IN 1947 AS
THE CALIFORNIA POLL BY MERVIN FIELD

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2008 Field Health Policy Survey:

California Voter Concerns with the
Health Care System and Reactions to
the State's Attempt to Reform It

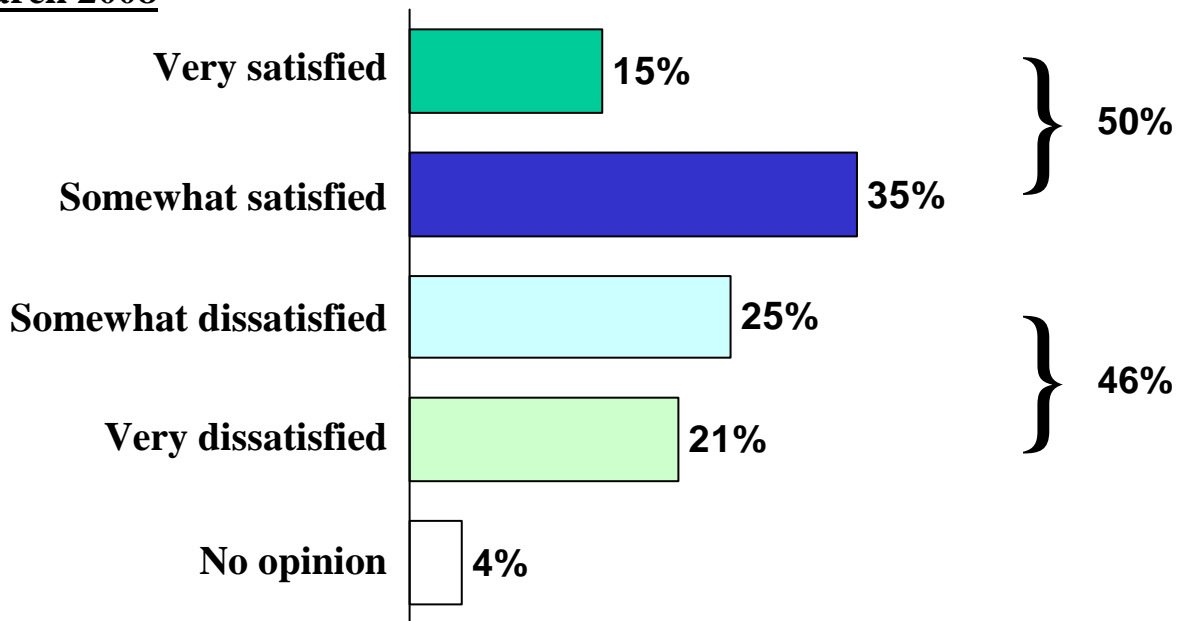
Released April 28, 2008

-Graphics Packet-

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The California Wellness Foundation

Table 1a
**Californians' overall satisfaction with
the health care system**

March 2008



December 2006

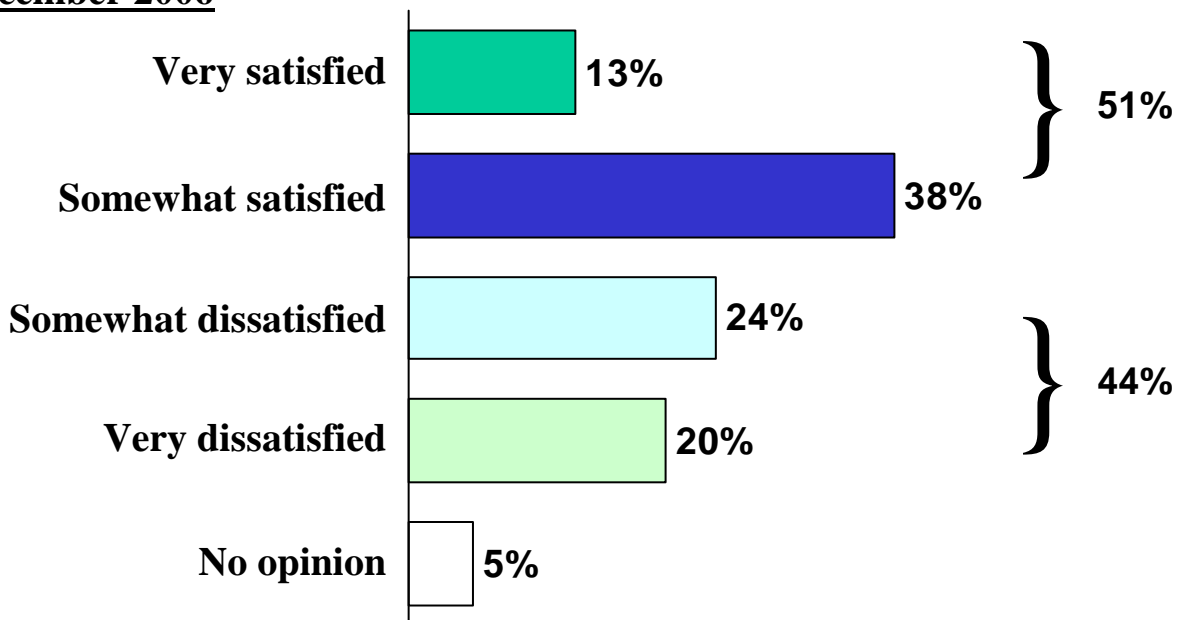
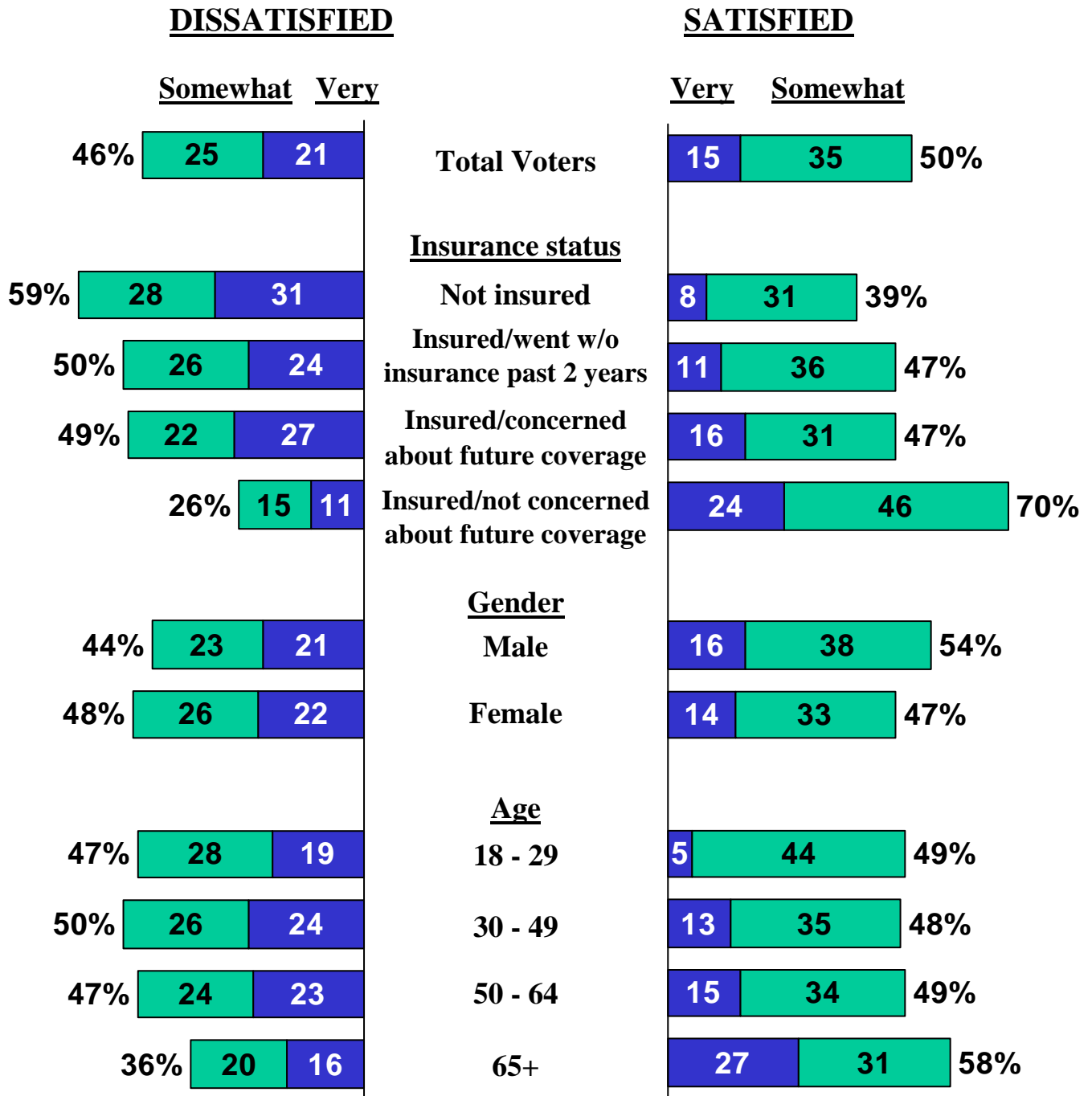


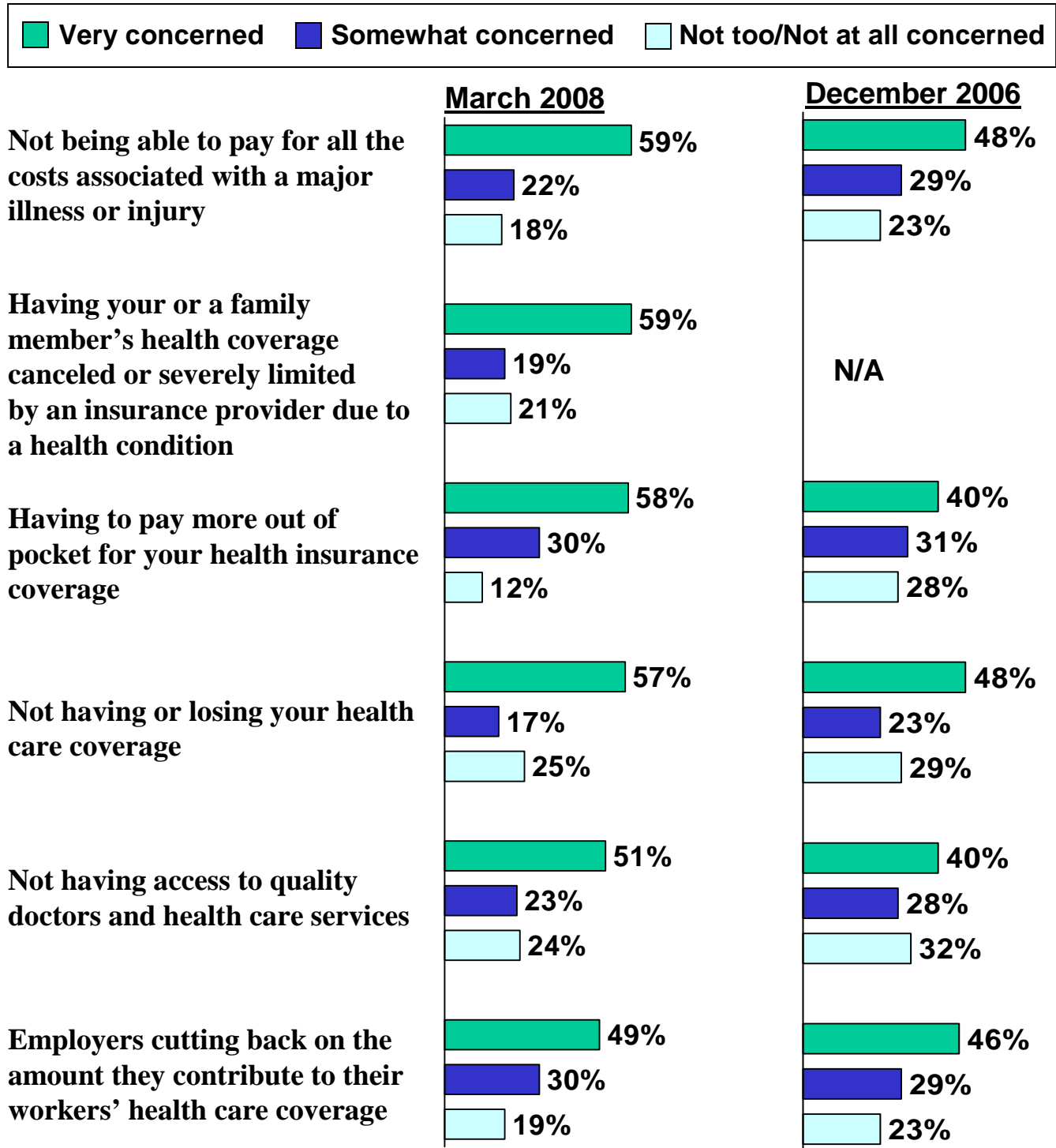
Table 1b

Californians' overall satisfaction with the health care system – by subgroup



Note: Differences between 100% and the sum of each item's percentages equal proportion with no opinion.

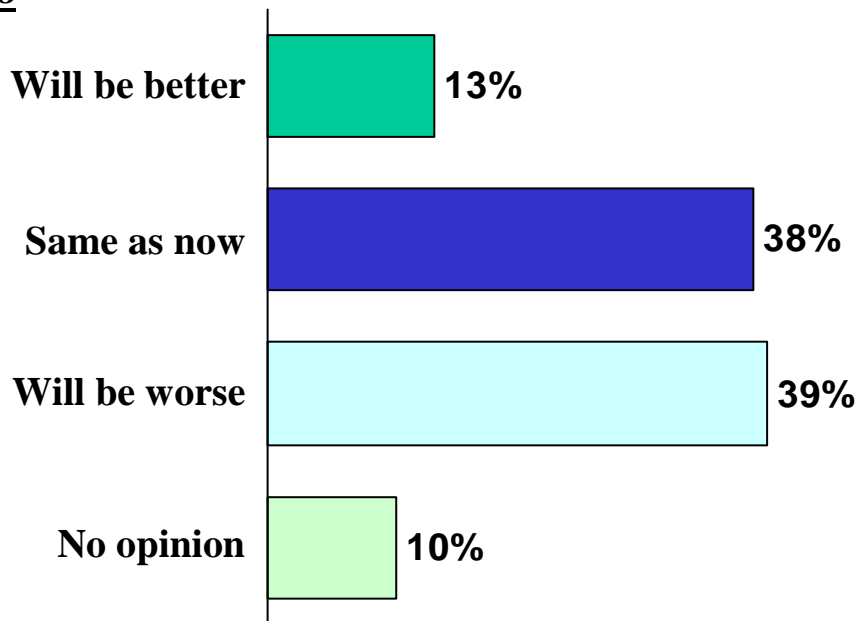
Table 2
Changes in Californians' voter concerns
about the health care system (2006 vs. 2008)



Note: Differences between 100% and the sum of each item's percentages equal proportion with no opinion. N/A: Not asked in 2006.

Table 3
**Perceptions of California's health care system
five years from now**

March 2008



December 2006

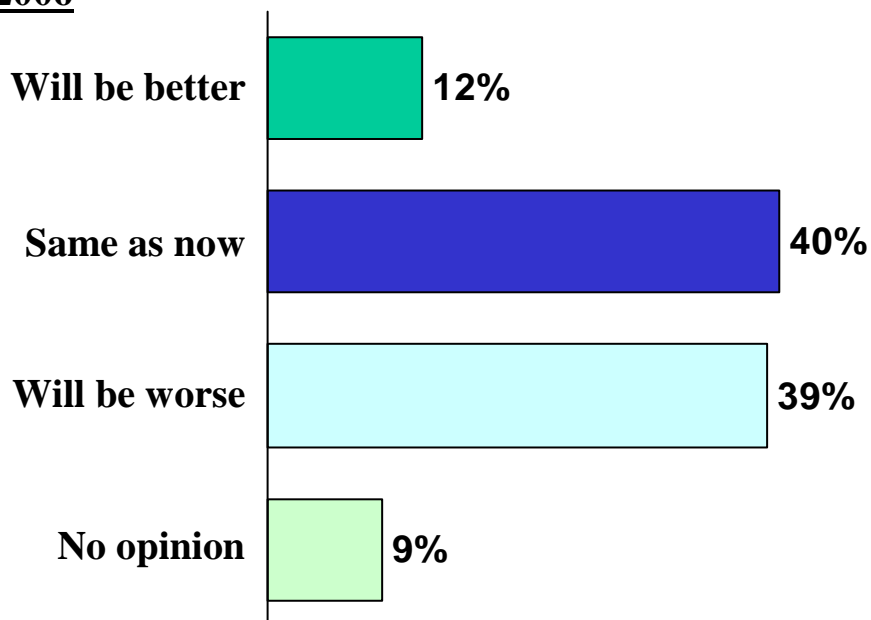
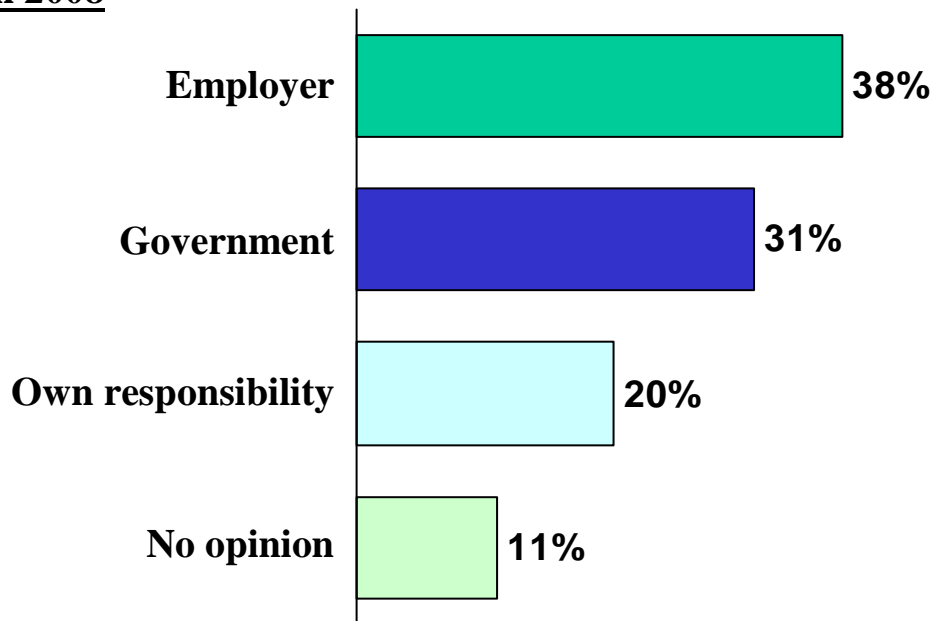


Table 4a

From whom Californians would rather obtain their health insurance coverage

March 2008



December 2006

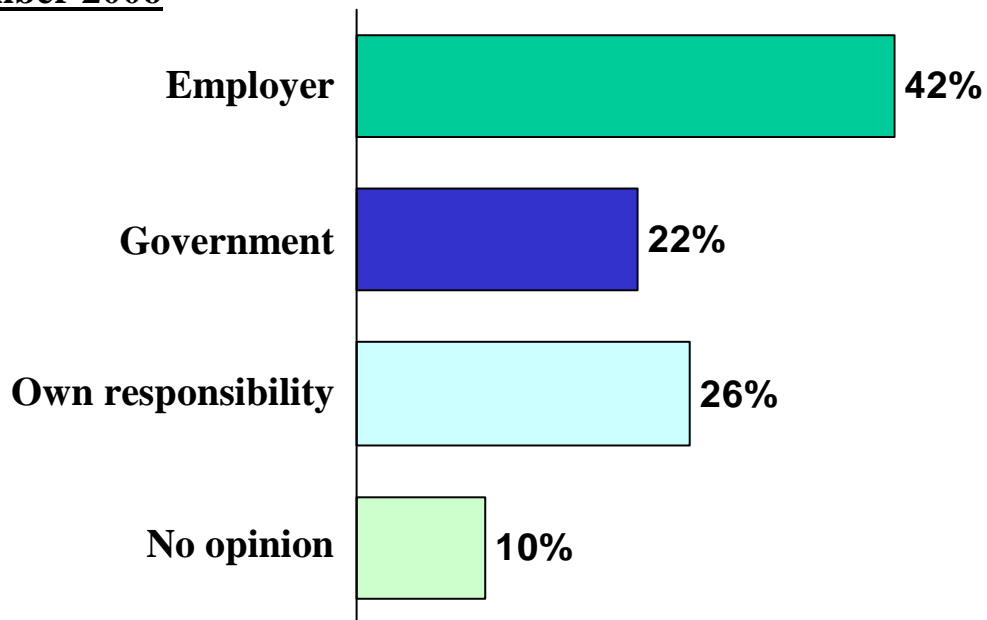


Table 4b

From whom Californians would rather obtain their health insurance coverage – by subgroup

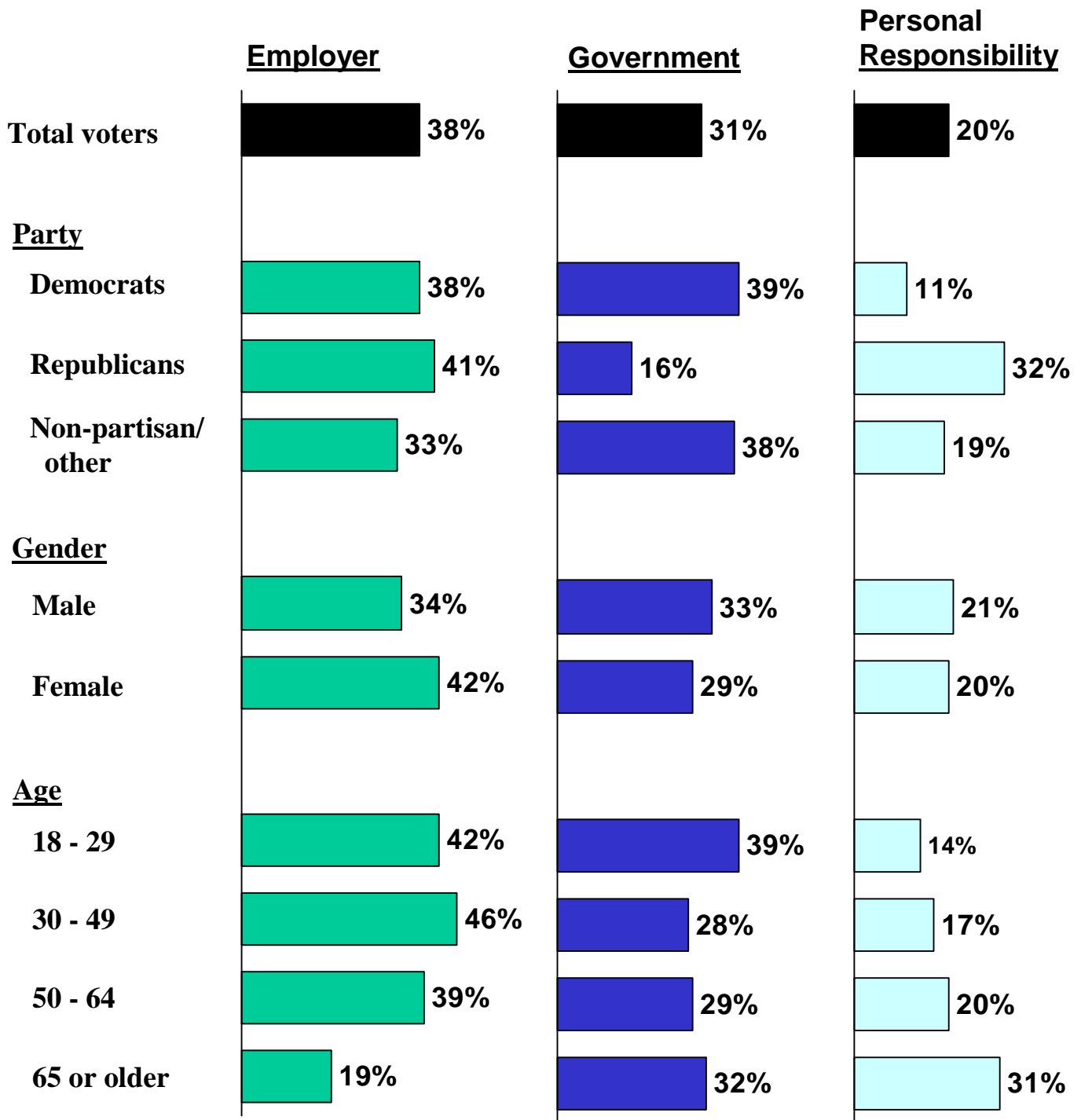


Table 5

Which level of government is better suited to enact the changes needed in the health care system

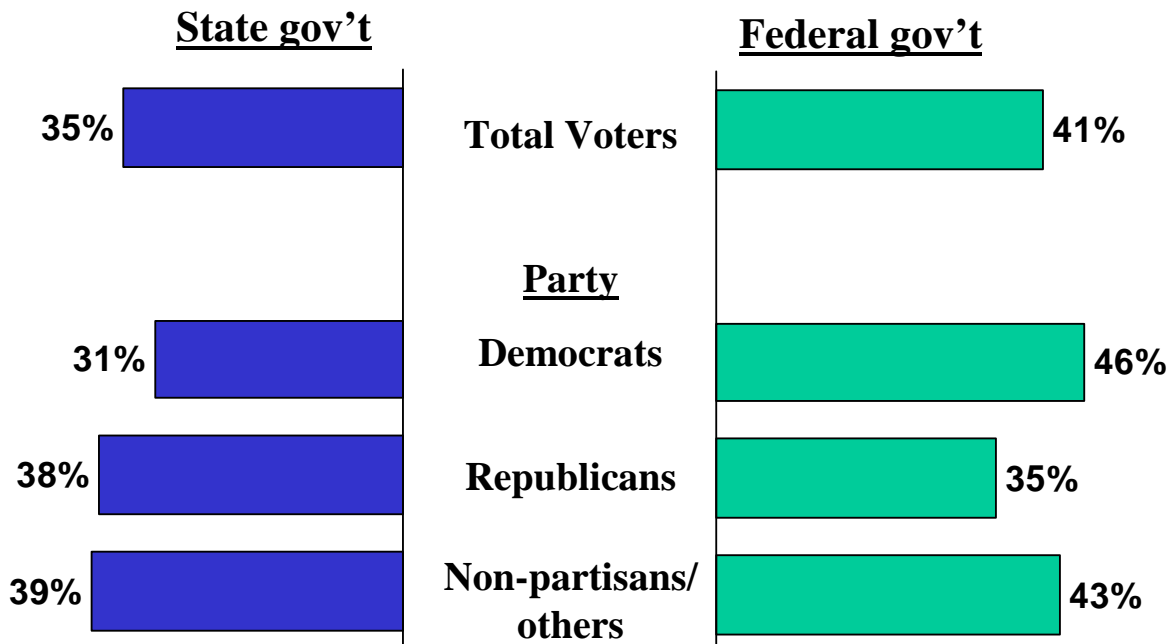
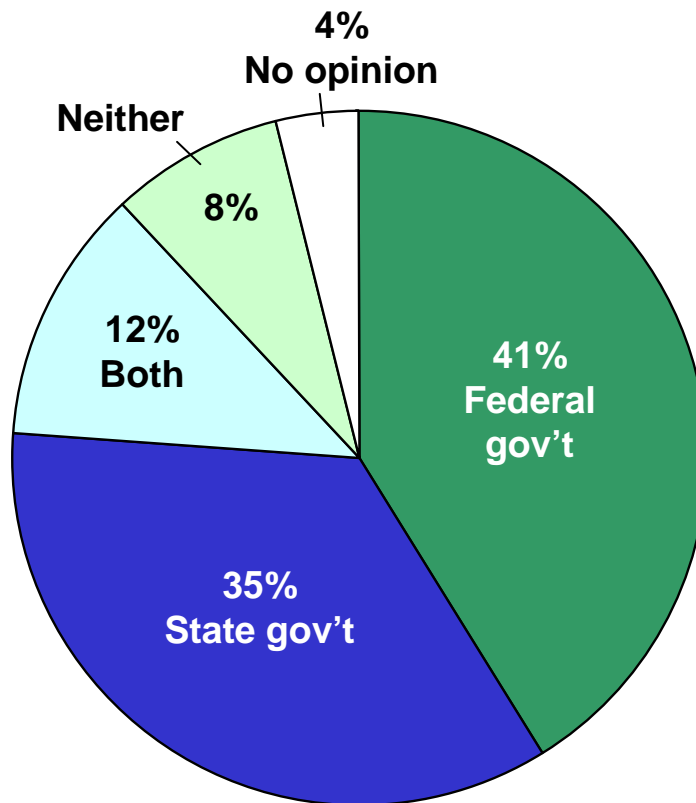
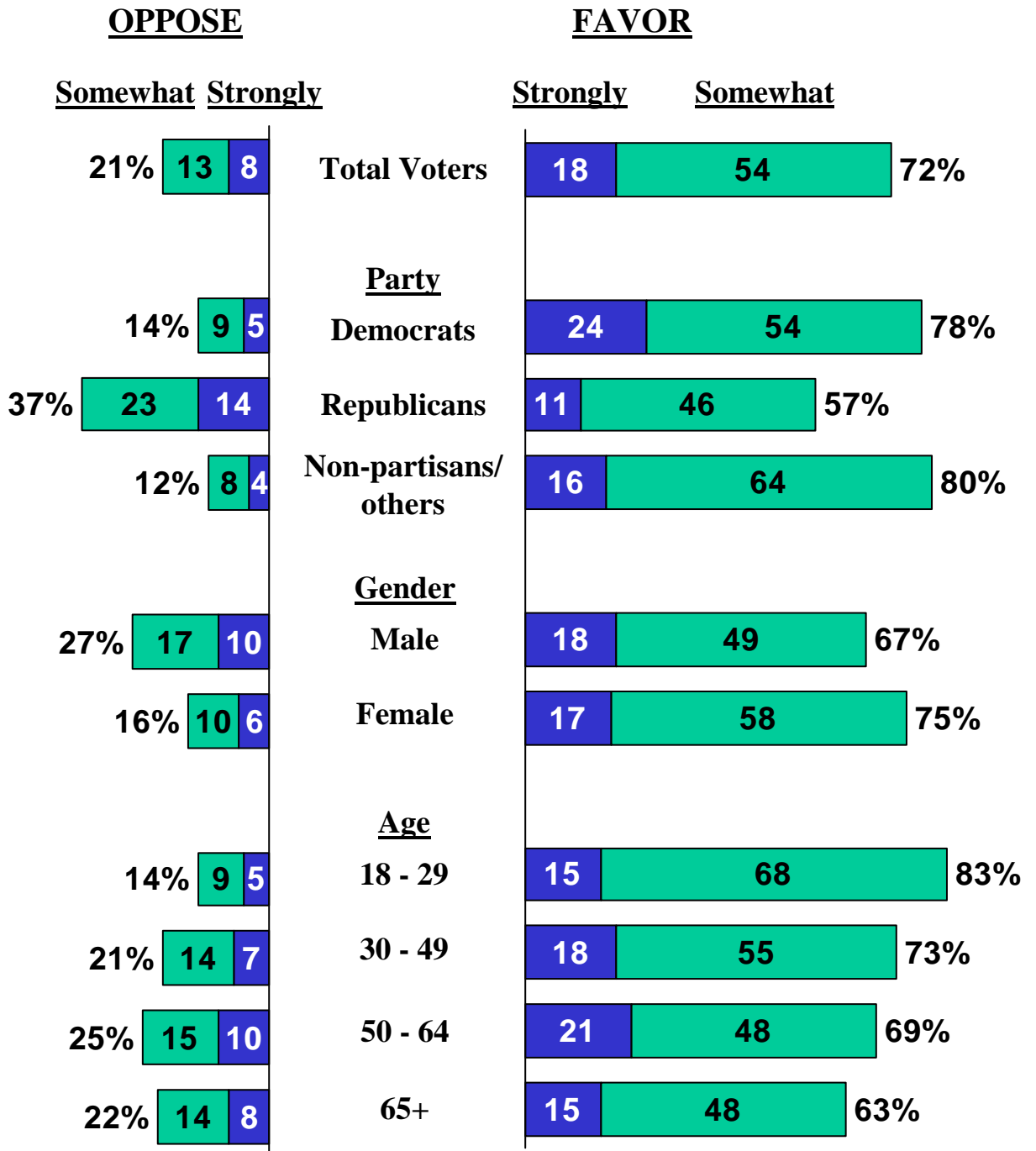


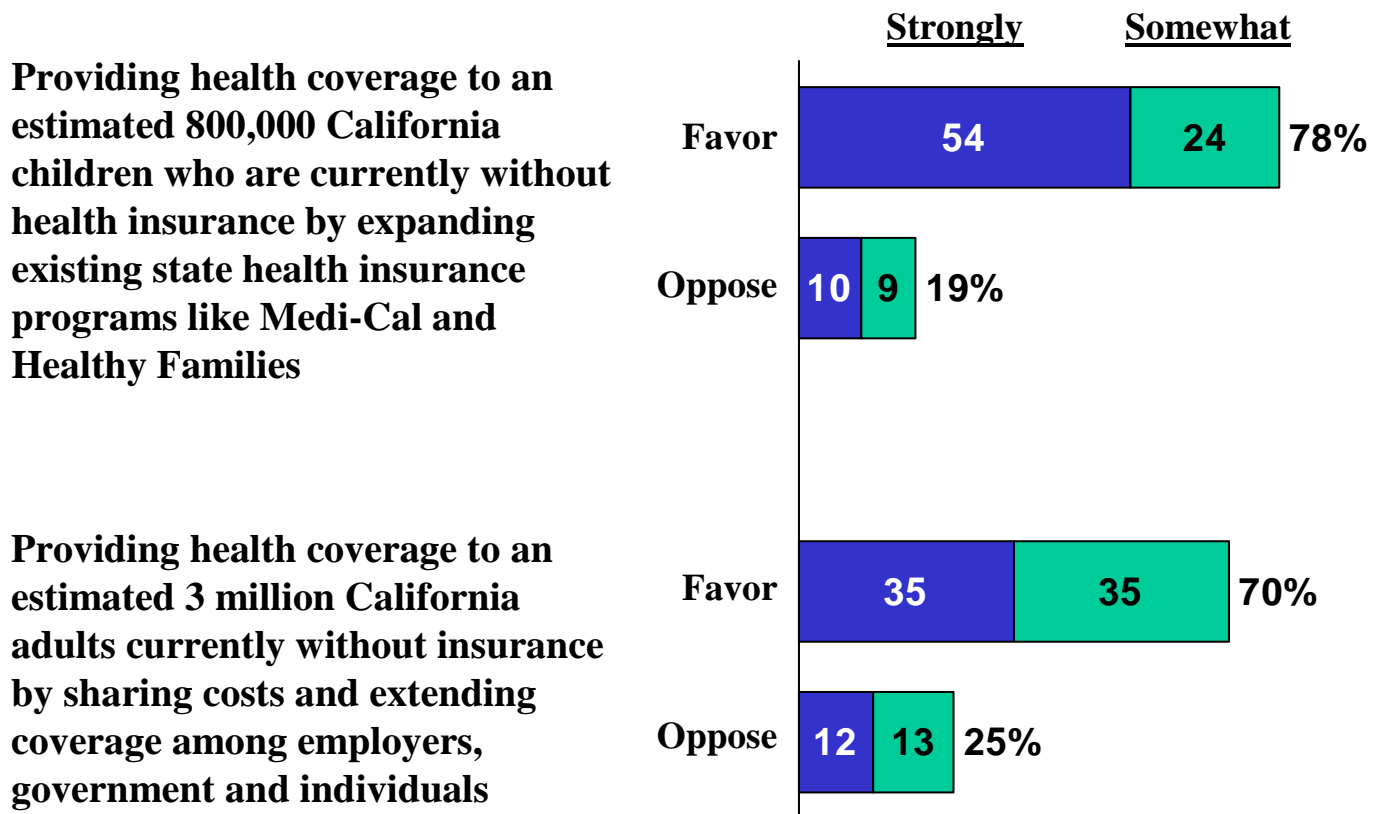
Table 6
Voters' overall opinion of the state's proposed health reform package



Note: Differences between 100% and the sum of each item's percentages equal proportion with no opinion.

Table 7

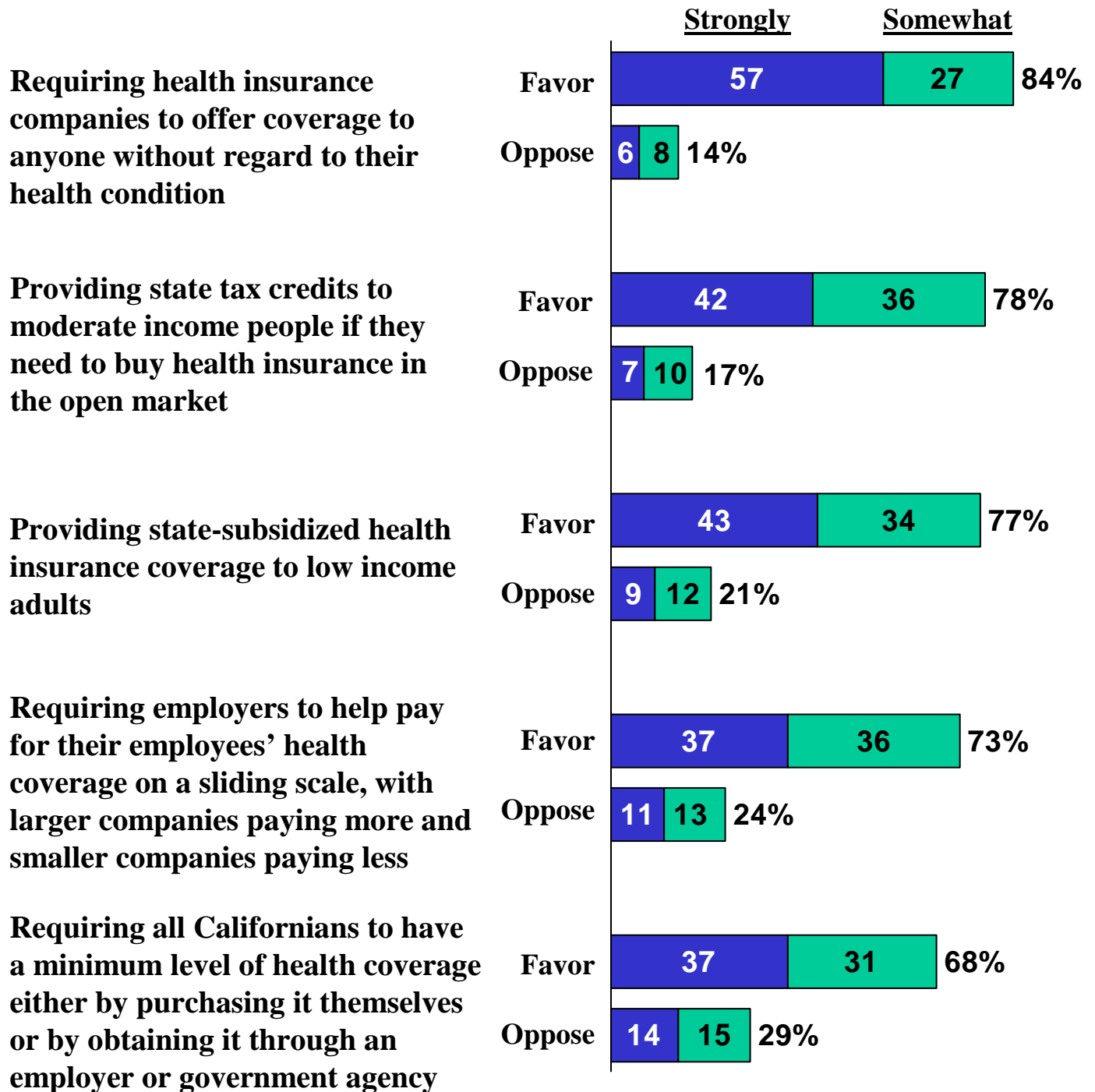
Views of the health reform package's objectives of providing more uninsured California adults and children with health coverage



Note: Differences between 100% and the sum of each item's percentages equal proportion with no opinion.

Table 8

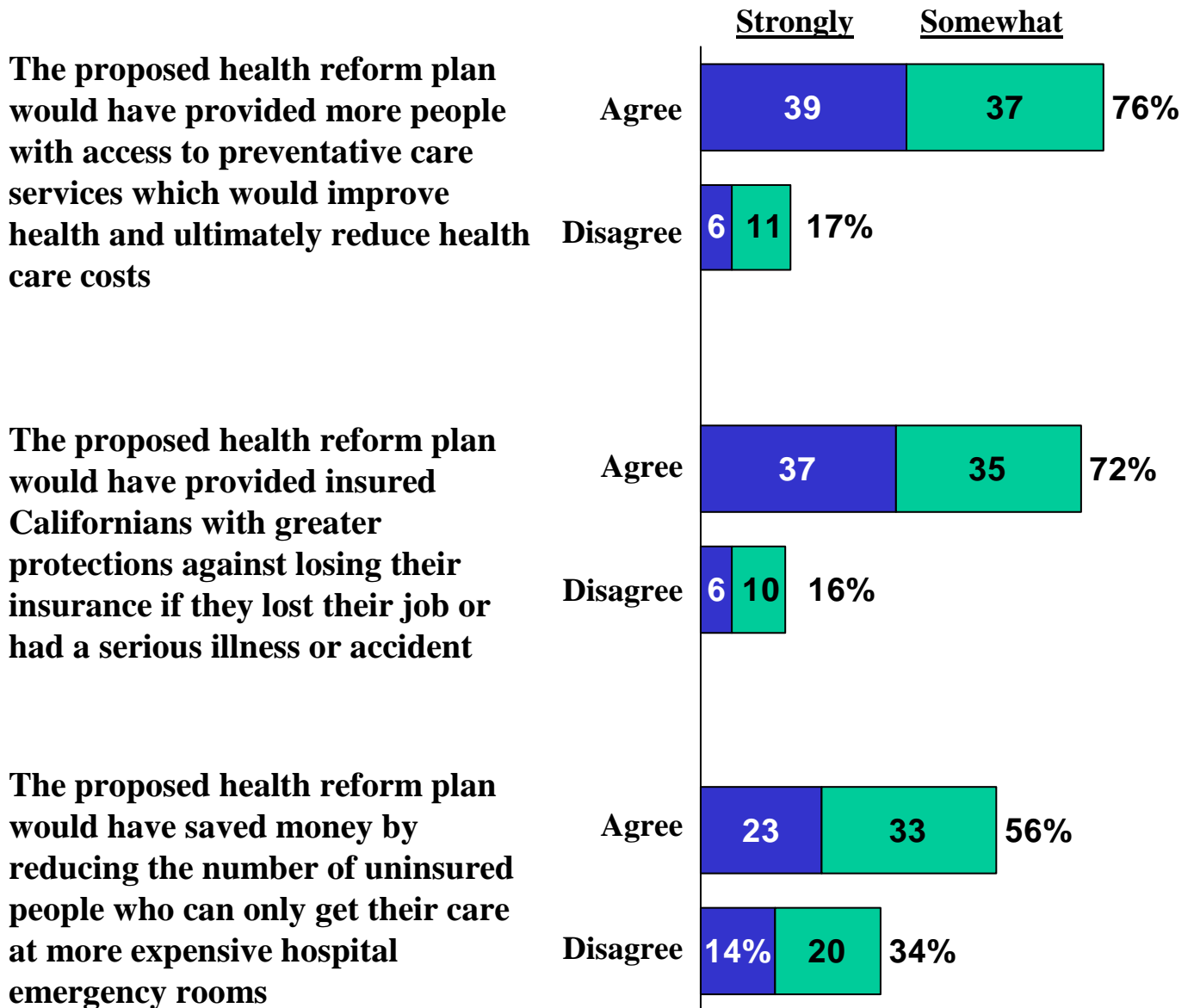
Views of some of the specific elements of the proposed health reform package



Note: Differences between 100% and the sum of each item's percentages equal proportion with no opinion.

Table 9

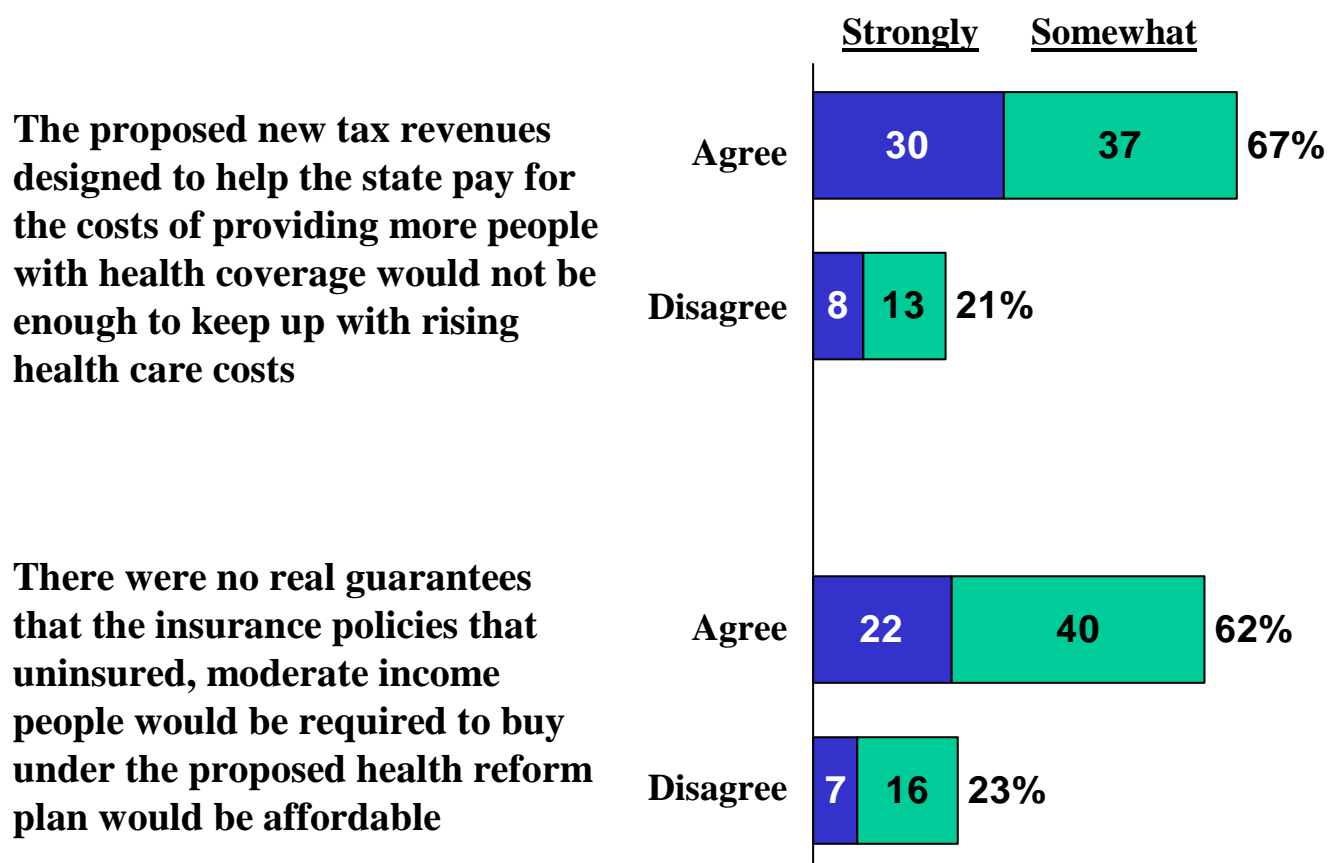
Reactions to arguments in FAVOR of the proposed health reform package



Note: Differences between 100% and the sum of each item's percentages equal proportion with no opinion.

Table 10

Reactions to arguments **OPPOSED** to the proposed health plan package



Note: Differences between 100% and the sum of each item's percentages equal proportion with no opinion.

Table 11

How Californians feel health insurance costs should be paid

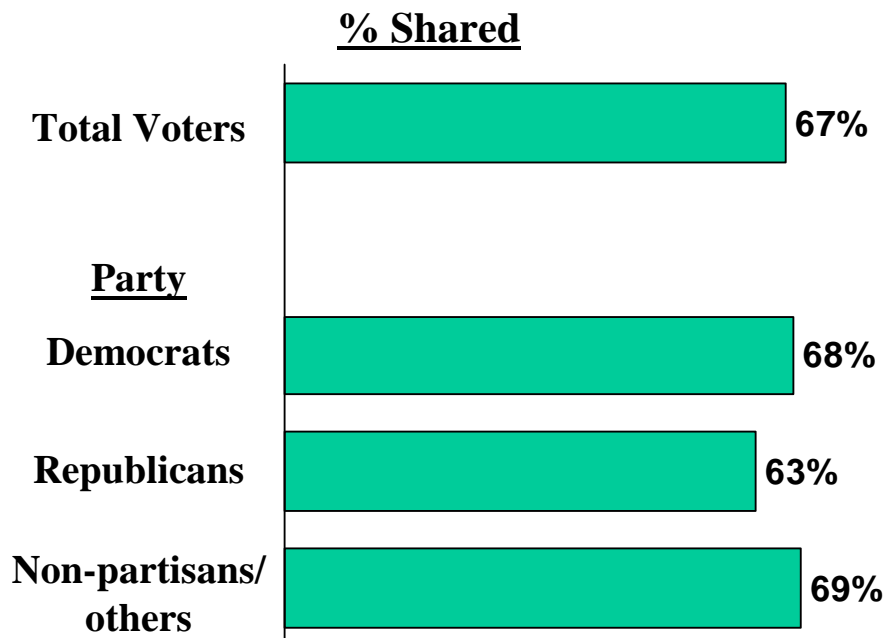
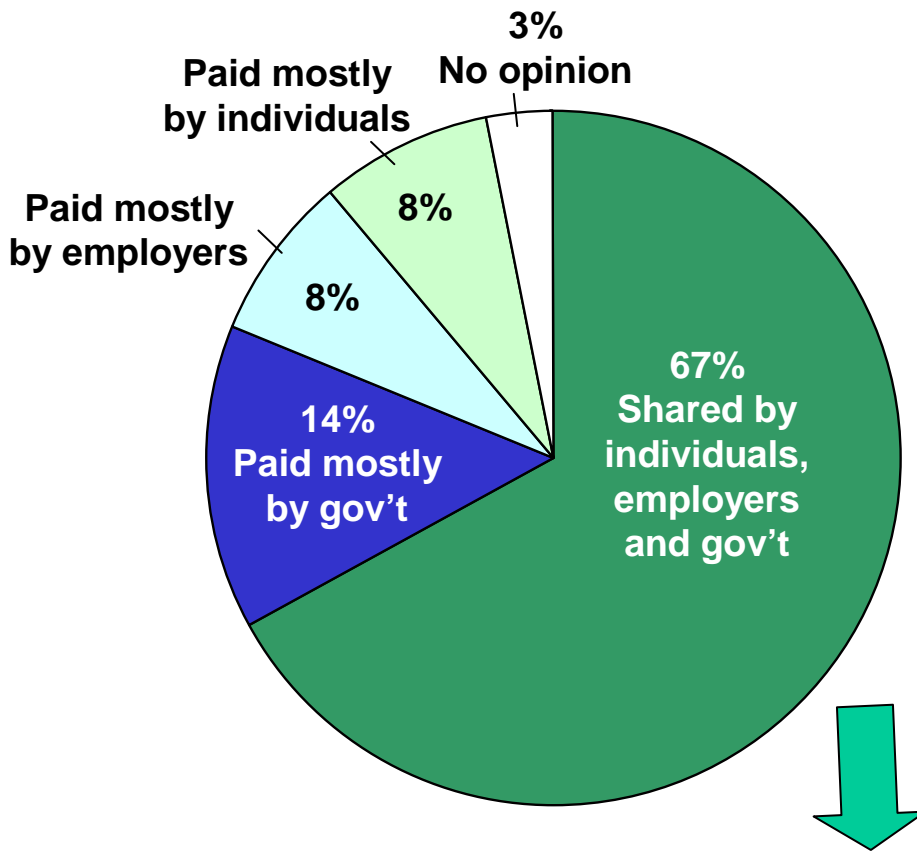
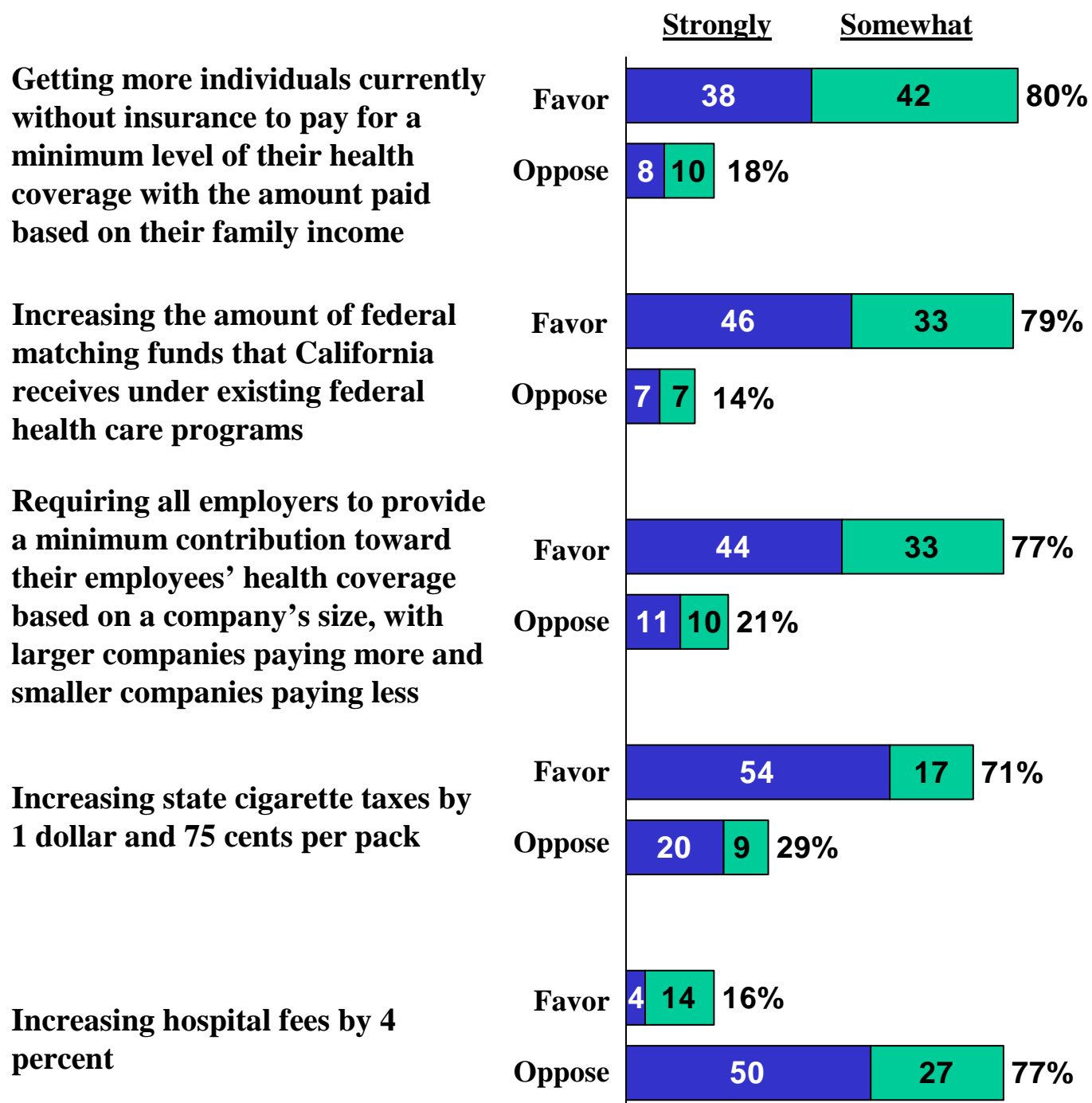


Table 12

Opinions of the proposed funding sources under the proposed health reform package



Note: Differences between 100% and the sum of each item's percentages equal proportion with no opinion.

Table 13a

Voter opinions of groups and individuals involved in the health reform debate (1 of 2)

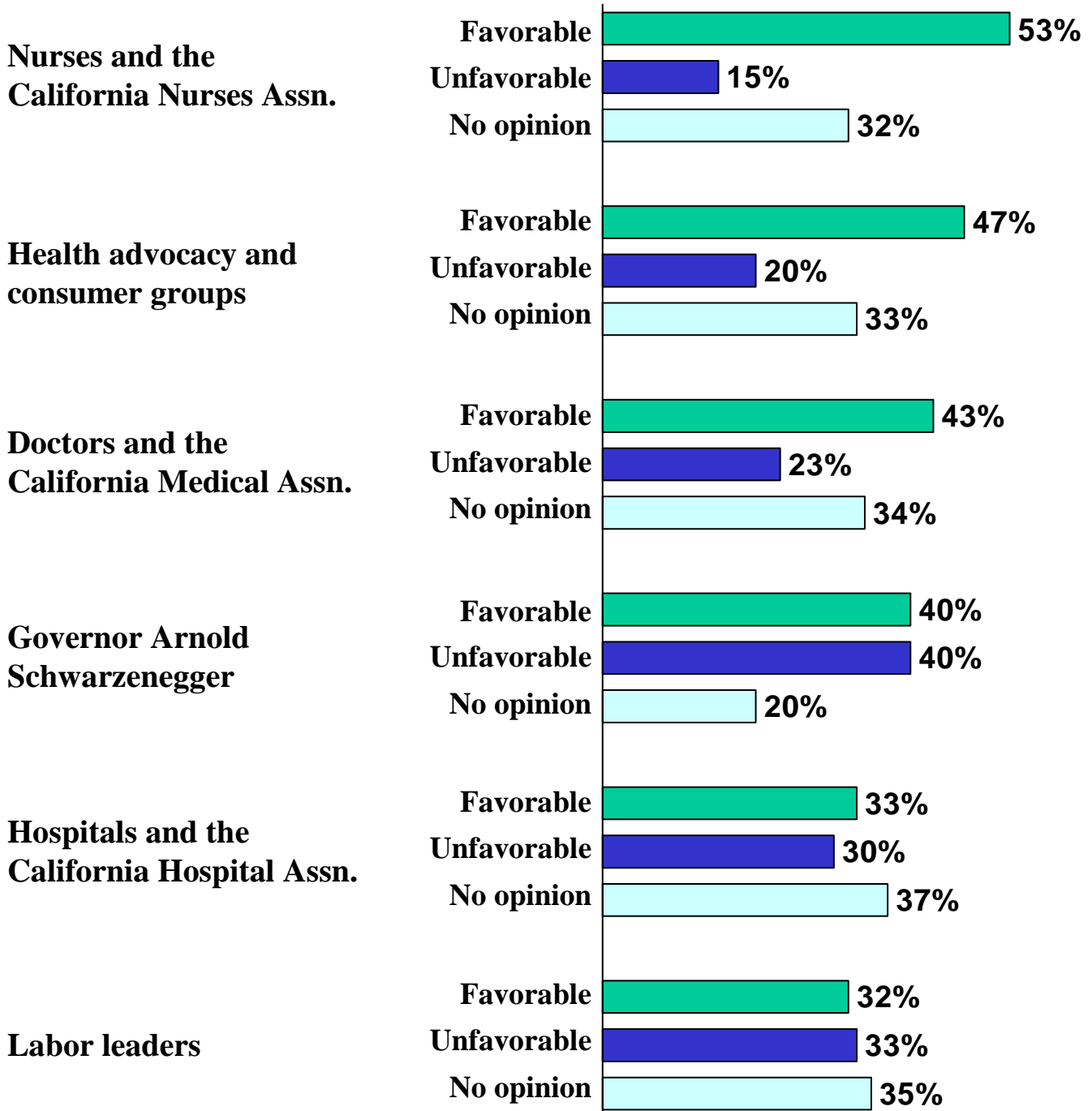


Table 13b

Voter opinions of groups and individuals involved in the health reform debate (2 of 2)

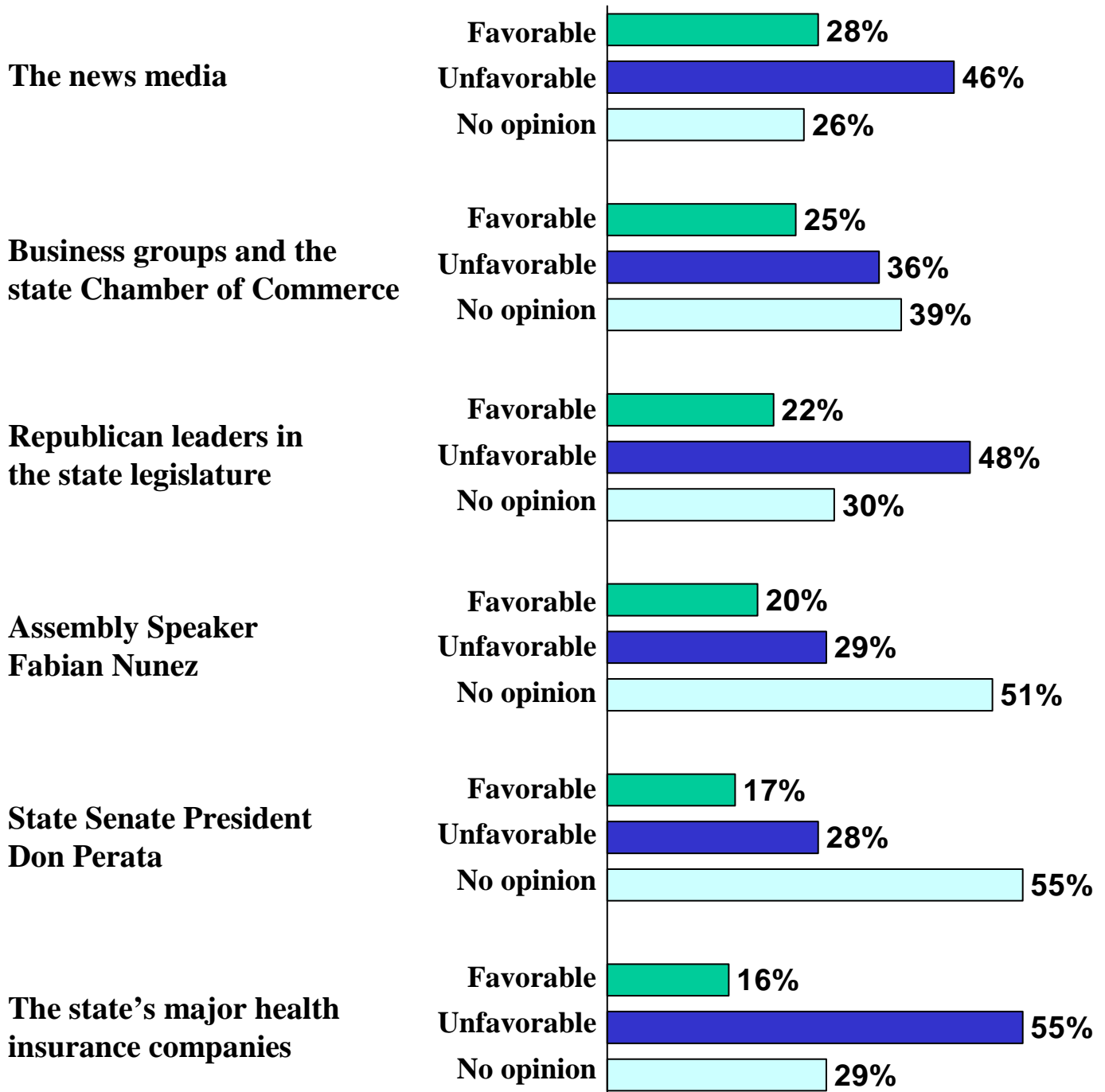


Table 14

Degree of concern about the state failing to pass health reform legislation last year

