Americans Support Government Action on High Drug Prices

September 2021, West Health / NORC AmeriSpeak® survey

9 out of 10
Americans believe Medicare negotiation will increase drug access.

A mere 6% of Americans trust drug companies to ensure patients can afford the drugs they need. At the same time nearly half of all Americans believe Medicare can make their drugs affordable.

INSTEAD,
3 out of 4 Americans believe Medicare negotiation will lower drug prices and improve access.

THE EFFECTS OF HIGH DRUG PRICES

1 in 4 Americans have been unable to pay for medicine or drugs prescribed by a doctor in the last 12 months.

2/3 of Americans don’t believe the pharmaceutical industry’s claim that Medicare negotiation will reduce drug access.

38 million Americans have had a family member or friend pass away because they couldn’t afford the necessary medicine or drugs for their illness in the last 5 years.
Americans overwhelmingly support tax penalties on drug companies to reduce high drug prices

- **78% support** Imposing tax penalties on drug companies to ensure that they negotiate affordable prescription drug prices with Medicare.
- **82% support** Imposing tax penalties on drug companies for prescription drug price increases that are greater than inflation.
- **77% support** Imposing tax penalties on drug companies for prescription drug prices that are more than 20 percent above what people pay in Germany, France, or Japan.
- **88% support** Requiring drug companies to negotiate with Medicare for lower prescription drug prices.

West Health / NORC AmeriSpeak® survey results are based on a nationally representative sample of 1,071 US households surveyed in September 2021.