



EPIC-MRA Press Release

Inflation Reduction Act Poll Results

Health care & Prescription Drug Q's

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600 Sample Statewide Poll of Active & Likely November Voters

Polling Dates: November 10-16, 2023

Conducted by live interviewers, including 70% cell phones -- Margin of Error: $\pm 4.0\%$

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Key survey findings

67% aware of free vaccinations and cost of insulin capped at \$35 a month

80% not aware of cap reductions for co-pays/deductibles for Michigan Medicare participants from \$7,300 to \$3,300 in 2024, and \$2,000 in 2025

48% aware of Medicare having the authority to negotiate with drug companies on the price of the most popular prescription drugs

7-in-10 Michigan voters support prescription drug and health care provisions of Inflation Reduction Act

55% majority less likely to vote for member of Congress or US Senate if they voted to repeal Inflation Reduction Act

Questions were commissioned by Eric Schneidewind, a Lansing area attorney. The poll was conducted among a stratified sample of active & likely November general election voters as part of a statewide poll conducted by EPIC ▪ MRA.

When survey respondents were asked if they were aware or not aware of a provision in the Inflation Reduction Act that, “Starting this year, a wide variety of vaccinations are available to Medicare participants at no charge, including the COVID and flu vaccines, and the cost of insulin for diabetic patients has been capped at \$35 per month,” 67% said they were aware of this provision, with 33% saying they were not aware. Democrats were aware by 73%, Independents by 57% and Republicans by 63%.

- Educational
- Political
- Industrial
- Consumer

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- Analysis

An 80% majority said they were not aware of a provision that states: “The cap on co-pays and deductibles for enrollees of prescription drug coverage – affecting at least 260,000 of the 1.8 million Medicare participants in Michigan – will be lowered from its current level of \$7,300 to \$3,000 in 2024, and in 2025, that cap would be lowered again to \$2,000.”

Democrats were NOT aware by 80%, Independents and Republicans by 79% each.

A 48% plurality said they were aware (51% not aware) of a provision stating: “To offset the cost of other prescription coverage provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act, Medicare has the authority to negotiate with drug companies on the price of the most popular prescription drugs, lowering the amount taxpayers will pay for those drugs.” Democrats were aware of this provision by 61%, Independents by only 34% (64% not aware), and Republicans were aware by 40% (not aware by 60%).

When asked if they support or oppose the prescription drug provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act that was described, a 70% majority said they support those provisions (44% strongly), 9% said they oppose them, with 21% undecided. Democrats supported the prescription drug provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act by 87%, Independents by 75%, and Republicans by 54%. Majorities of every demographic group, including majorities of voters with a favorable opinion of Donald Trump, Trump voters and conservative voters supported these important prescription drug provisions of the new law.

Finally, all respondents were told that “In early 2023 when Republicans took control of the U.S. House of Representatives, one of the acts they took was to unanimously vote to repeal the Inflation Reduction Act, which if it had been enacted would have taken away all of the provisions of the law, including the prescription drug provisions just described. If your member of Congress or member of the U.S. Senate, voted to repeal the Inflation Reduction Act and thereby take away the prescription drug benefits, would you be more likely to vote for your member of Congress or U.S. Senate in the next election, less likely to vote for him or her, or would you say that this one issue wouldn’t influence your vote one way or the other?”

A 55% majority said they would be less likely to vote for their member of Congress/U.S. Senate if they vote to repeal the Inflation Reduction Act (40% much less likely), 27% said it wouldn’t influence their vote, 9% said they would be more likely to vote for them, and 9% were undecided. An 83% overwhelming majority of Democrats said they would be less likely to vote for their member of Congress or the U.S. Senate if they voted to repeal the Inflation Reduction Act, as would 59% of Independent voters, as well as 27% of Republican voters.

Eric Schneidewind, who commissioned the poll said, “The results of this poll contain two warnings: First, policy makers and advocates for expanded healthcare need to make sure that more than 20% of Medicare enrollees are aware of the new reductions in Medicare prescription drug deductibles and co-pays that will be effective next year. Second, Members of Congress need to be aware that any vote to reduce these new benefits, such as free vaccines and thousands of dollars in reduced co-pays and deductibles, will cost them votes in the next election.”

Said Bernie Porn, President of EPIC-MRA, “there is strong support for the prescription drug and health care provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act, and with 55% saying they are less likely to vote for their member of Congress or U.S. Senate if they voted to repeal this new law and these important prescription drug and health care provisions of the law, this should be a key issue of debate between the two political parties in the 2024 general election. Trying to explain why they voted to take away the prescription drug and health care provisions of the IRA law will be a challenge for those members of Congress who voted to repeal them.”

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