

LIFE EXPERIENCES AND INCOME INEQUALITY IN THE UNITED STATES

January 2020



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



HARVARD
T.H. CHAN
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

REPORT SUMMARY

Survey Background

Over the past five decades, income inequality has sharply increased between the highest income earners and middle- and lower-income earners in the U.S. This poll examines the implications of this growing inequality for the lives of U.S. adults across different income levels. This report, *Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States*, is based on a survey conducted for NPR, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. It explores how adults' personal experiences, values, and views on income inequality, opportunity, and health in the U.S., differ among adults by household income. Surveyed adults are split into four income categories: those in the top 1% highest income households in the U.S. (earning at least \$500,000/year), those in higher-income households (earning \$100,000-\$499,999/year), those in middle-income households (earning \$35,000-\$99,999/year), and those in lower-income households (earning less than \$35,000/year). Due to the heterogeneity of incomes in the *higher-income* category, analyses in this report focus on differences between the top 1% highest income adults compared to middle- and lower-income adults, though results are included for all four income groups. It was conducted July 17 – August 18, 2019, among a nationally representative, probability-based telephone (cell and landline) sample of 1,885 adults ages 18 or older living in the United States.

Summary

Overall, these findings illustrate that adults in the top 1% highest income bracket have dramatically different life experiences than those with middle- and lower-incomes when it comes to financial problems, health care, life satisfaction, and problems with prescription drug costs. Much has been written about low-income adults in the U.S., and these findings reinforce that adults with lower-incomes face significant financial hardships, including when it comes to health care, housing, and food.

These findings also raise important concerns about the American middle class, as about one-third of middle-income adults say they would struggle to pay off unexpected expenses, while nearly half report serious problems with health care costs, including paying for medical bills, dental bills, or prescription drugs. Compared with the top 1%, middle-income adults also report greater dissatisfaction in their jobs, housing, educational attainment, and personal financial situations.

While few of the top 1% highest income adults report major financial problems, about one-third of middle-income adults and two-thirds of lower-income adults say they would struggle to pay off unexpected expenses. In addition, while adults in the top 1% rarely report serious problems paying medical, dental, or prescription drug bills, nearly half of middle-income adults and a majority of lower-income adults say their families have experienced serious problems with these bills.

When it comes to life satisfaction, most of the top 1% highest income adults say they are very satisfied with their lives overall, their finances, their housing, their education, and their jobs. Comparatively, middle- and lower-income adults report greater dissatisfaction than the top 1% in all of these areas. Adults in the top 1% also report lower levels of anxiety about the future than middle- and lower-income adults.

Adults' personal experiences with the U.S. health care system vary widely by income level, with the top 1% highest income adults reporting fewer problems with health care costs and access than middle- and lower-income adults. In addition, more than one in five adults in the top 1% participate in concierge medicine. When it comes to health care quality, there are fewer differences between the top 1% highest income and middle-income adults' perceptions of the quality of health care they and their families receive.

While few of the top 1% highest income adults report serious problems with prescription drug costs, sizeable shares of middle- and lower-income adults say they have recently experienced serious problems paying prescription drug costs, they did not fill a prescription because of costs, or they cut back on dosage.

Despite wide disparities in the problems they face, the views and values U.S. adults hold in many ways do not correspond to the realities of people's lives. A majority of adults across income levels believe the American Dream is still within reach, and the vast majority of parents and grandparents—regardless of income—say the American Dream is still alive for their children and grandchildren.

When asked about characteristics tied to being economically successful in America today, hard work stands out as the factor chosen by most adults across all income groups as essential or very important. Notably, despite research showing several other factors such as family income, neighborhood, and race/ethnicity are closely tied to economic achievement, fewer than four in ten adults across all income groups believe these factors are essential or very important to being economically successful in America today.

Although there is wide optimism about future generations' ability to achieve the American Dream, when thinking about current financial opportunities, about half of adults across income groups say it is harder for the average person to earn a middle-class income today compared to when they were children. When thinking about educational opportunities, adults in the top 1% are less likely than others to believe students from upper-income families have an unfair advantage when it comes to college admissions. Across income groups, adults are somewhat divided on how difficult it is for the average person to graduate from college today compared to when they were children.

When asked their views about income inequality, fewer than half of adults across all income categories say they think income differences between the rich and the poor or between the rich and the middle-class are very serious problems in the U.S. today. On health care, the vast majority of adults across income categories say they think having a higher income allows people to get better health care. However, among those who see a

relationship between income and health care, only about half of adults across income groups see this relationship as very unfair.

On reducing income inequality, only about one in four adults in the top 1% highest income group believe it should be a very important priority for government to address this issue. Unlike narrowing the income gap, a majority of adults across all income groups say it is a very important priority for government to make sure everyone living in the U.S. has health insurance coverage. While a majority of adults across income groups do not believe it is a top priority for government to reduce income inequality, an overall majority do believe very wealthy Americans should pay more in taxes than they do now.

For the biggest health problems facing their local communities, the most-cited health problems among the top 1% highest income adults are obesity and drug addiction/abuse. Among middle-income adults, the most-cited health problems are drug addiction/abuse and health care access. Among lower-income adults, the most-cited health problems are drug addiction/abuse, health care access, and cancer.

INTRODUCTION

This report, *Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States*, is based on a survey conducted for NPR, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. The survey explores how adults' personal experiences, values, and views on income inequality, opportunity, and health in the U.S., differ by household income. In this survey, adults were stratified by income, split among those in the top 1% highest income households, those in higher-income households, those in middle-income households, and those in lower-income households. Due to the heterogeneity of incomes in the *higher-income* category, analyses in this report focus on differences between the top 1% highest income compared to middle- and lower-income adults, though results are included for all four income groups.

Table of Contents

SECTION I. LIFE EXPERIENCES

I.	Experiences with Financial Problems	5
II.	Life Satisfaction	8
III.	Experiences in Health Care	10
IV.	Problems with Prescription Drugs	12

SECTION II. VIEWS AND VALUES

V.	Views on the American Dream	14
VI.	Views on Achieving Economic Success	16
VII.	Views on Financial and Educational Opportunities	18
VIII.	Views on Inequality	20
IX.	Views on Policies	23
X.	Views on Public Health Issues	25

SECTION III. METHODS

XI.	Methodology	27
-----	-------------------	----

This survey was conducted July 17 – August 18, 2019, among a nationally representative, probability-based telephone (cell and landline) sample of 1,885 adults age 18 or older living in the United States. Surveyed adults are split into four income categories¹: those in the top 1% highest income households (earning at least \$500,000/year), those in higher-income households (earning \$100,000-\$499,999/year), those in middle-income households (earning \$35,000-\$99,999/year), and those in lower-income households (earning less than \$35,000/year). The margin of error at the 95% confidence interval is ± 3.2 percentage points. For responses using 3–6-point scales, the analysis focuses on responses at the end of the scale (e.g., “very concerned”), because they better predict behavior than other response combinations. Further methodological information is included at the end of the report.

¹ Top 1% highest income defined as household incomes of \$500,000+/year, using Census data. Higher-income defined as \$100,000-\$499,999/year, or more than four times the 2019 federal poverty level (FPL) for a four-person family, up to the top 2% highest household incomes. Middle-income defined as \$35,000-\$99,999/year, or above 138% FPL up to approximately four times the 2019 FPL for a four-person household. Lower-income defined as <\$35,000/year, or less than 138% of the 2019 FPL for a four-person household. 138% FPL is the eligibility threshold for some federal aid programs for low-income households; [see HHS Poverty Guidelines for 2019](#) for detailed information on FPL.

I. Experiences with Financial Problems

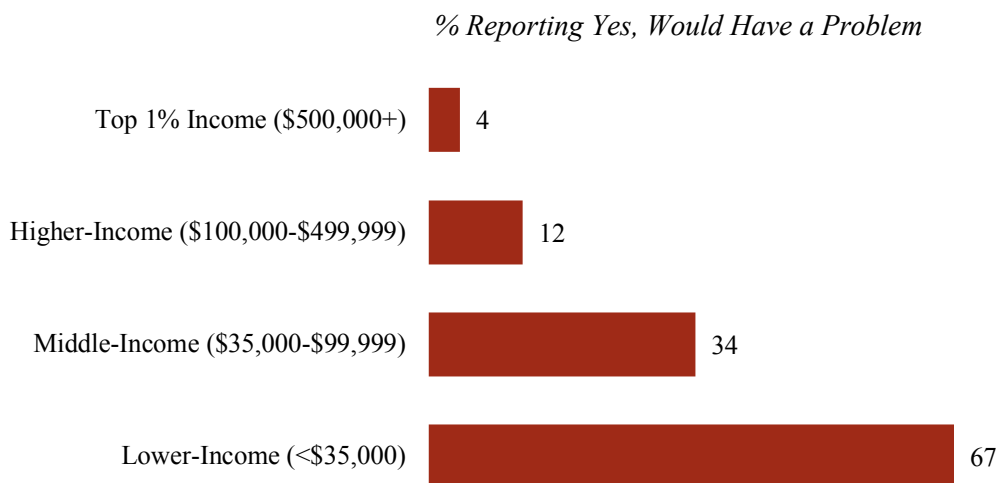
When it comes to financial problems, there are stark differences in reported experiences, by household income. While few of the top 1% highest income adults have major financial problems, about one-third of middle-income adults and two-thirds of lower-income adults say they would struggle to pay off unexpected expenses. In addition, while adults in the top 1% rarely report serious problems paying medical, dental, or prescription drug bills, nearly half of middle-income adults and a majority of lower-income adults say their families have experienced serious problems with these bills.

Few of the top 1% would struggle to pay off an unexpected expense, while one in three middle-income adults say they would

Overall, just 4% of the top 1% highest income adults say they would have a problem paying off the full amount of an unexpected \$1,000 expense right away (Figure 1), while about one-third of middle-income adults (34%) and two-thirds of lower-income adults (67%) say this. A \$1,000 expense is the average (median) amount of a low-income family's most expensive financial shock each year, equivalent to about one month's worth of income.²

**Figure 1. Differences in Financial Insecurity,
By Annual Household Income (in Percent)**

Q26. Suppose you had an unexpected expense, and the amount came to one thousand dollars. Based on your current financial situation, would you have a problem paying off the full amount of that expense right away, or not?



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q26. N=1,885 adults ages 18+.

² The Pew Charitable Trusts. October 2015. The Role of Emergency Savings in Family Financial Security: How Do Families Cope with Financial Shocks? Available [online](#).

Adults in the top 1% rarely report serious problems paying medical bills

While fewer than one in ten adults with the top 1% highest incomes (8%) say their families have experienced serious problems paying for medical bills, dental bills, or prescription drugs in the past few years, nearly half of middle-income adults (48%) and a majority of lower-income adults (57%) say this.

Higher education costs are the most serious problem faced by the top 1%; medical bills are the most serious problem faced by middle- and lower-income adults

Among the top 1% highest income adults, the most-reported issue they face is the cost of higher education. About one in eight of these adults (12%) say they or household members have experienced serious problems with the cost of college or higher education in the past few years. Among middle- and lower-income adults, the most-reported serious problem they face is paying for medical bills (48% of middle-income adults and 57% of lower-income adults reported serious problems paying medical, dental, or prescription drug bills).

Table 1. Serious Problems with Paying Bills in the Past Few Years, By Annual Household Income (in Percent)

Q25. Within the past few years, have you or any members of your household ever had a serious problem... or not?

	Lower- Income Adults	Middle- Income Adults	Higher- Income Adults	Top 1% Income Adults
<i>% Reporting Serious Problems</i>				
Paying for medical bills, dental bills, or prescription drugs	57	48	30	8
With the cost of college/higher education	33	30	23	12
Paying your credit card debt/other debt	33	31	21	6
Finding an affordable place to live	35	22	11	4
With your rent/house payment	24	17	7	1
Paying for food	30	12	3	<1

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q25. N=1,885 adults ages 18+. Categories ranked by overall highest % among all respondents.

Beyond medical bills, three in ten middle-income adults also face serious problems paying down debts

Among middle-income adults, about three in ten say they or their families have had serious problems paying credit card or other debt (31%) or paying for the cost of college/higher education (30%) in the past few years, while more than one in five report serious problems finding an affordable place to live (22%). About one in six middle-income adults (17%) say they or household members have had a serious problem paying for housing in the past few years.

Three in ten lower-income adults face serious problems paying for food

The largest difference between middle-income adults and those with lower-incomes is reporting serious problems with paying for food. While about one in eight middle-income adults (12%) say they or household members have had serious problems paying for the cost of food in the past few years, three in ten lower-income adults (30%) say this.

II. Life Satisfaction

When it comes to life satisfaction, most of the top 1% highest income adults say they are very satisfied with their lives overall, their finances, their housing, their education, and their jobs. Comparatively, middle- and lower-income adults report greater dissatisfaction than the top 1% in all of these areas. Adults in the top 1% also report lower levels of anxiety about the future than middle- and lower-income adults.

Near-universal life satisfaction for the top 1%

When it comes to overall life satisfaction, most adults in the top 1% highest income category (90%) say they are completely or very satisfied with their lives, compared to 66% of middle-income adults and 44% of lower-income adults.

Adults were also asked about satisfaction with their finances, housing, education, and jobs (Table 2). While most adults in the top 1% are completely or very satisfied in these areas, those with middle- and lower-incomes report greater dissatisfaction. While more than half of middle-income adults are completely or very satisfied with their current housing situation (63%), their jobs (58%), and their education (53%), fewer than four in ten (38%) are completely or very satisfied with their personal financial situation. Compared to the top 1% highest income adults, significantly fewer lower-income adults reported high satisfaction in any of these areas, as fewer than half reported being completely or very satisfied with their current housing situation (47%), education (46%), job (44%), or personal financial situation (20%).

Table 2. Life Satisfaction, By Annual Household Income (in Percent)

Q22. Please tell me whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with your... [If satisfied]: Would you say you are completely satisfied, very satisfied, or somewhat satisfied?

	Lower-Income Adults	Middle-Income Adults	Higher-Income Adults	Top 1% Income Adults
	<i>% Reporting They are Completely/Very Satisfied</i>			
Life (in general)	44	66	82	90
Job	44	58	76	83
Current housing situation	47	63	77	91
Education	46	53	71	86
Personal financial situation	20	38	61	87

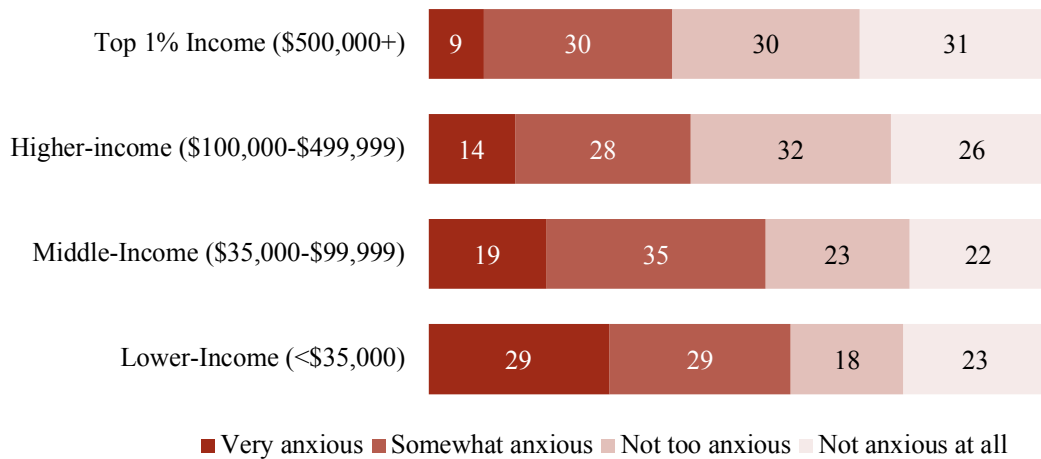
NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q22-23. N=1,885 adults ages 18+. Job satisfaction only asked among employed adults. Categories ranked by overall highest % among all respondents.

Top 1% less likely to report anxiety than other groups

When asked about anxiety about their future, about one in ten of the top 1% highest income adults (9%) say they are very anxious (Figure 2). By contrast, about one in five middle-income adults (19%) say they are very anxious, as do 29% of lower-income adults.

**Figure 2. Anxiety about the Future,
By Annual Household Income (in Percent)**

Q24. In general, how anxious are you about your future?



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q24. N=1,885 adults ages 18+.

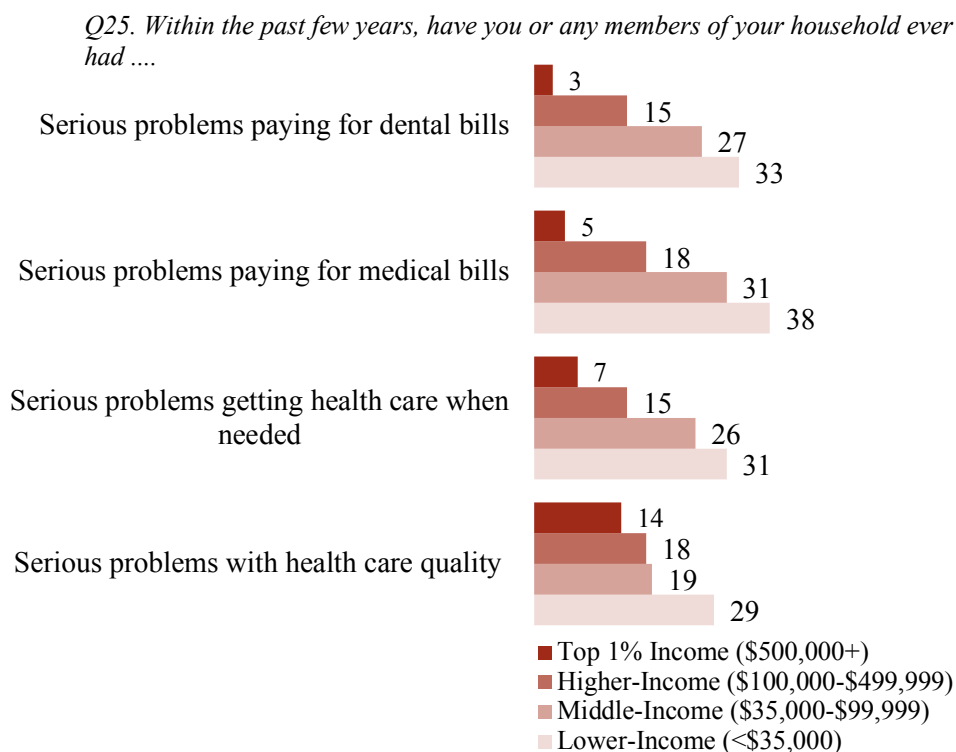
III. Experiences with Health Care

Adults' personal experiences with the U.S. health care system vary widely by income level, with the top 1% highest income adults reporting fewer problems with health care costs and access than middle- and lower-income adults. In addition, more than one in five adults in the top 1% participate in concierge medicine. When it comes to health care quality, fewer differences exist in adults' perceptions of the quality of health care they receive, by income level.

On health care costs, adults in the top 1% rarely report serious problems, compared to about three in ten middle-income adults

When it comes to health care costs (Figure 3), only 5% of the top 1% highest income adults say they or household members have experienced serious problems paying medical bills in the past few years, while only 3% report problems paying dental bills. By contrast, at least three in ten middle-income (31%) and lower-income adults (38%) report serious recent problems paying medical bills, while similar shares (27% of middle-income adults and 33% of lower-income adults) report problems paying dental bills.

Figure 3. Differences in Problems with Health Care Costs, Access, and Quality, by Annual Household Income (in Percent)



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q25a-b, Q25d-e. N=1,885 adults ages 18+.

On health care access, few adults in the top 1% report serious problems, compared to more than one in four middle-income and lower-income adults

When it comes to health care access (Figure 3), 7% of the top 1% highest income adults say they or household members have experienced serious problems getting health care when they needed it in the past few years. Higher shares of middle-income adults (26%) and lower-income adults (31%) report experiencing these serious problems with health care access.

Fewer income differences between the top 1% and middle-income adults in reported health care quality

Despite differences in serious problems with health care costs and access, when it comes to health care quality, there are fewer differences between the top 1% highest income and middle-income adults' perceptions of the quality of health care they and their families receive. Fewer than two in ten of the top 1% highest income adults (14%) and middle-income adults (19%) say they have had any serious problems with the quality of health care they or household members received within the past few years, while about three in ten lower-income adults (29%) say this.

In addition, among adults who say they or household members have been seriously ill in the past few years, a majority of adults in all income groups believe they received the best treatment available in their state (75% of the top 1% highest-income adults, 73% of middle-income adults, and 64% of lower-income adults).

Among the top 1% highest income adults, more than one in five participate in concierge medicine

More than one in five of the top 1% highest income adults (22%) say they currently participate in concierge medicine, a type of arrangement with a doctor where they are able to reach that doctor at any time they want by paying an additional fee. Fewer than one in ten middle-income adults and lower-income adults also say this (5% and 9%, respectively).

IV. Problems with Prescription Drugs

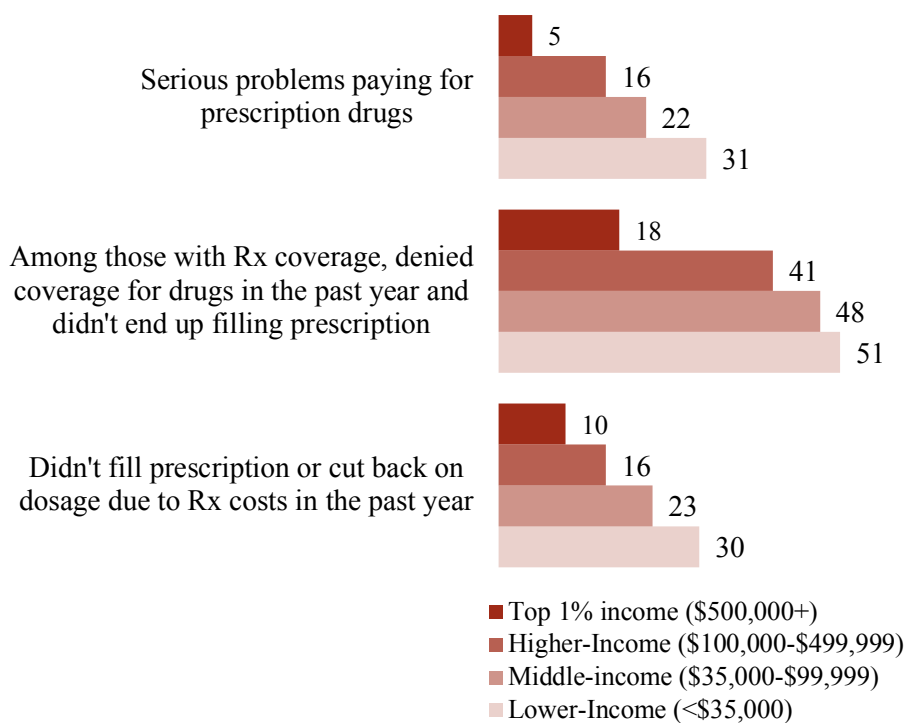
While few of the top 1% highest income adults report serious problems with prescription drug costs, sizeable shares of middle-income and lower-income adults say they have recently experienced serious problems paying prescription drug costs, they did not fill a prescription because of costs, or they cut back on dosage.

Few adults in the top 1% report serious problems with prescription drug costs

Few of the top 1% highest income adults (5%) say they or household members have experienced serious problems paying for prescription drugs or other medication the past few years. By contrast, at least one in five middle-income (22%) and lower-income (31%) adults report these problems (Figure 4).

In addition, while 10% of adults in the top 1% highest income category say they or household members have not filled a prescription or cut back on dosage because of their costs in the past year, 23% of middle-income adults and 30% of lower-income adults report this.

Figure 4. Differences in Problems with Prescription Drug Costs, By Annual Household Income (in Percent)



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q25c, Q32-Q35. N=1,885 adults ages 18+.

Sizeable shares of adults do not fill prescriptions when denied insurance coverage

The vast majority of adults across all income groups say they or their household members have health insurance that helps pay for prescription drugs, including 91% of adults in the top 1% highest income group, 85% of middle-income adults, and 76% of lower-income adults. Despite this wide insurance coverage, more than three in ten adults across all income groups who have prescription drug coverage say they or household members have been told their health insurance plan would not cover a drug prescribed by their doctor in the past year (41% of the top 1% highest income adults, 32% of middle-income adults, and 49% of lower-income adults).

This insurance coverage carries important effects, as sizeable shares of those who were denied coverage did not end up filling this prescription. While fewer than one in five of the top 1% highest income adults who were denied coverage (18%) say they did not still end up filling this prescription, nearly half of middle-income adults (48%) and about half of lower-income adults (51%) who were denied coverage say they did not still end up filling this prescription.

V. Views on the American Dream

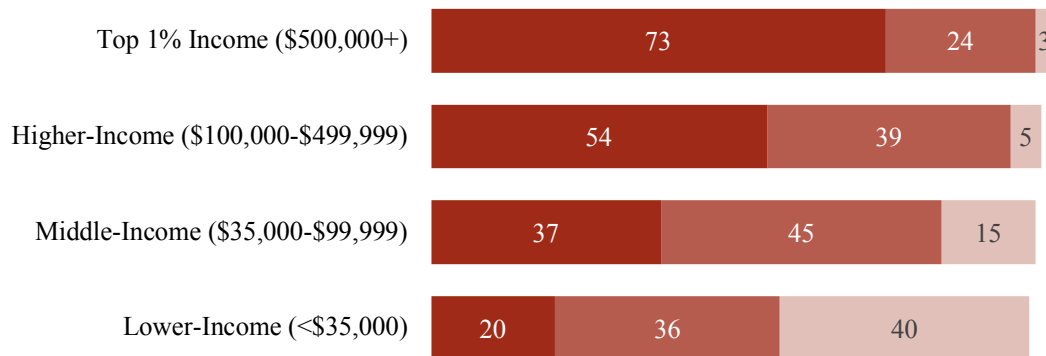
Despite the problems facing many middle- and lower-income Americans, a majority of adults across income levels believe the American Dream is still within reach. In addition, the vast majority of parents and grandparents across income groups believe their children or grandchildren will achieve the American Dream.

Majority of adults across income levels believe the American Dream is within reach

When asked about achieving the American Dream, nearly three-quarters of the top 1% highest income adults (73%) say they have achieved the American Dream, 24% say they are on their way to achieving it, and only 3% say the American Dream is out of reach for them. Among middle-income adults, more than one-third (37%) say they have achieved the American Dream, 45% say they are on their way to achieving it, and 15% say it is out of reach for them. Among lower-income adults, 20% say they have achieved the American Dream, 36% say they are on their way to achieving it, and four in ten (40%) say it is out of reach for them.

**Figure 5. Views on Achieving the American Dream,
By Annual Household Income (in Percent)**

Q4. On achieving the 'American Dream,' do you believe you have achieved the American Dream, you're on your way to achieving it, or is it out of reach for you?



■ You have achieved the American Dream ■ On your way to achieving it ■ American Dream is out of reach

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q4. N=1,885 adults ages 18+.

Vast majority of adults across income groups believe future generations will achieve the American Dream

When parents and grandparents were asked if they believe their children or grandchildren will achieve the American Dream in the future, the vast majority of adults across income groups (80% of the top 1% highest income adults, 78% of middle-income adults, and 70% of lower-income adults) believe their children or grandchildren will achieve the American dream.

VI. Views on Achieving Economic Success

When asked about characteristics tied to being economically successful in America today, hard work stands out as the factor chosen by most adults across all income groups as essential or very important. Notably, despite research showing several other factors such as family income, neighborhood, and race/ethnicity are closely tied to economic achievement,³ fewer than four in ten adults across all income groups believe these factors are essential or very important to being economically successful in America today.

Hard work stands out as a factor closely tied to economic success

When asked about characteristics tied to economic success in America today (Table 4), hard work stands out as the factor chosen by most adults across income groups as essential or very important (93% of the top 1%, 89% of middle-income adults, and 87% of lower-income adults).

Table 4. Views on the Importance of Factors in Achieving Economic Success, By Annual Household Income (in Percent)

Q14. For each of the following, please tell me how important you think it is for being economically successful in America today. How important is...

	Lower- Income Adults	Middle- Income Adults	Higher- Income Adults	Top 1% Income Adults
	% Reporting Essential/Very Important			
Hard work	87	89	90	93
Knowing the right people	68	61	52	51
Graduating from college	61	50	57	60
Having well-educated parents	53	48	41	54
Graduating from a professional school (e.g., medical, law, business)	56	41	33	40
Coming from an upper-income family	37	37	29	33
Growing up in an upper-income neighborhood	37	30	29	34
Graduating from a highly ranked college	39	25	19	23
A person's racial/ethnic background	33	24	26	27

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q14. N=1,885 adults ages 18+. Categories ranked by overall highest % among all respondents.

³ [Chetty et al. 2019](#); [Chetty et al. 2014](#); [Chetty and Hendren 2017](#); [Chetty et al. 2017](#); [Ge, Isaac, & Miller 2019](#)

Majority of the top 1% do not see family income, neighborhood, or race/ethnicity as closely tied to economic achievement

Notably, despite research showing several other factors such as family income, neighborhood, and race/ethnicity are closely tied to economic achievement in the U.S. today (see footnote 3 on p. 16), a majority of adults with the top 1% highest incomes do not believe they are essential or very important to being economically successful. Among the top 1% highest income adults, only about one-quarter (27%) believe race/ethnicity is essential or very important to achieving economic success, while about one-third believe coming from an upper-income family (33%) or growing up in an upper-income neighborhood (34%) are essential or very important.

Slight majority of Black adults see race as important factor tied to economic success

On race and ethnicity, one-third or fewer adults across all income groups say a person's racial or ethnic background is essential or very important for economic success in America today, including 27% of the top 1% highest income adults, 24% of middle-income adults, and 33% of lower-income adults. However, among Black adults, a slight majority (51%) believe racial/ethnic background is essential or very important to being economically successful in America today.

Some adults in the top 1% do not think certain advantages they hold matter for others to achieve economic success

In particular, when it comes to education, some of the highest 1% income adults do not think certain advantages they hold today matter much for achieving economic success. While more than three-quarters of the top 1% highest income adults hold a college degree (77%), only 60% believe it is essential or very important to graduate from college to achieve economic success in America today. Even fewer of the top 1% cite graduating from a professional school (40%) or a highly-ranked college (23%) as essential or very important.

Income differences on factors tied to economic achievement

Income differences emerge in adults' views on several factors tied to economic achievement. While about half of the top 1% highest income adults (51%) say knowing the right people is essential or very important to achieving economic success, higher shares of middle-income (61%) and lower-income (68%) adults say this. Lower-income adults are also more likely than the top 1% to say graduating from a professional school (56% v. 40%) and graduating from a highly-ranked college (39% v. 23%) are essential or very important to achieving economic success in America today (see Table 4).

VII. Views on Financial and Educational Opportunities

Despite wide optimism about future generations' ability to achieve the American Dream, when thinking about current financial opportunities, about half of adults across income groups say it is harder for the average person to earn a middle-class income today compared to when they were children. When thinking about educational opportunities, adults in the top 1% are less likely than others to believe students from upper-income families have an unfair advantage when it comes to college admissions. Across income groups, adults are somewhat divided on how difficult it is for the average person to graduate from college today compared to when they were children.

About half of U.S. adults across income groups say it is harder for the average person to earn a middle-class income compared to when they were children

Compared to when they were children, about half of adults across income groups—47% of adults with the top 1% highest incomes, 49% of middle-income adults, and 56% of lower-income adults—say they think it is harder for the average person to earn a middle-class income in the U.S. today. Fewer than one in four adults in any income category believe it is easier.

Table 5. Views on Earning a Middle-Class Income, By Annual Household Income (in Percent)

Q9. Compared to when you were a child, do you think it's harder or easier in the United States today for the average person to earn a middle-class income, or is it about the same?

	Lower-Income Adults	Middle-Income Adults	Higher-Income Adults	Top 1% Income Adults
Harder	56	49	50	47
Easier	14	21	13	21
About the same	29	29	36	32

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q9. N=1,885 adults ages 18+.

Across income groups, adults are somewhat divided on how difficult it is to graduate from college today compared to when they were children

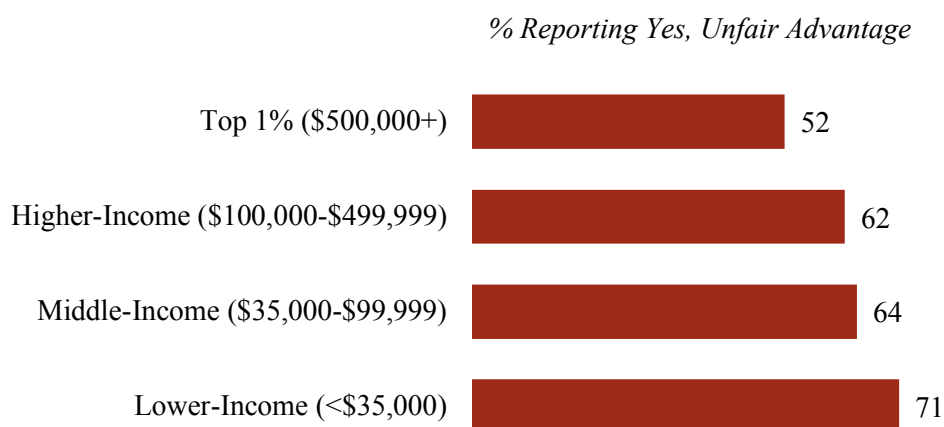
Across income groups, adults' views are somewhat divided on whether it is harder, easier, or about the same for the average person to graduate from college today compared to when they were children. Among the top 1% highest income adults, about one-third (34%) say it is harder for the average person to graduate from college today compared to when they were children, while 36% say it is easier, and 30% say it is about the same. About four in ten middle-income adults (42%) and lower-income adults (41%) also say it is harder for the average person to graduate from college today compared to when they were children.

Adults in the top 1% are less likely than others to believe college applicants from upper-income families have unfair advantage for admission

Although there has been a recent media focus on wealthy parents arranging bribes to help their children gain admission into elite colleges,⁴ when it comes to college admissions, the top 1% highest income adults are less likely than middle- and lower-income adults to say they believe students from upper-income families have an unfair advantage compared to students who are not from upper-income families (Figure 6). While a slight majority of adults in the top 1% income category (52%) say they think college applicants from upper-income families have an unfair advantage compared to applicants who are not from upper-income families, at least six in ten middle-income adults (64%) and lower-income adults (71%) say this.

**Figure 6. Views on College Admissions,
By Annual Household Income (in Percent)**

Q15. When it comes to being admitted to college, do you think college applicants from upper-income families have an unfair advantage compared to applicants who are not from upper-income families?



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q15. N=1,885 adults ages 18+.

⁴ This survey was conducted four months after the [U.S. Justice Department charged fifty people in a college bribery scheme](#) aimed at gaining entrance into elite colleges.

VIII. Views on Inequality

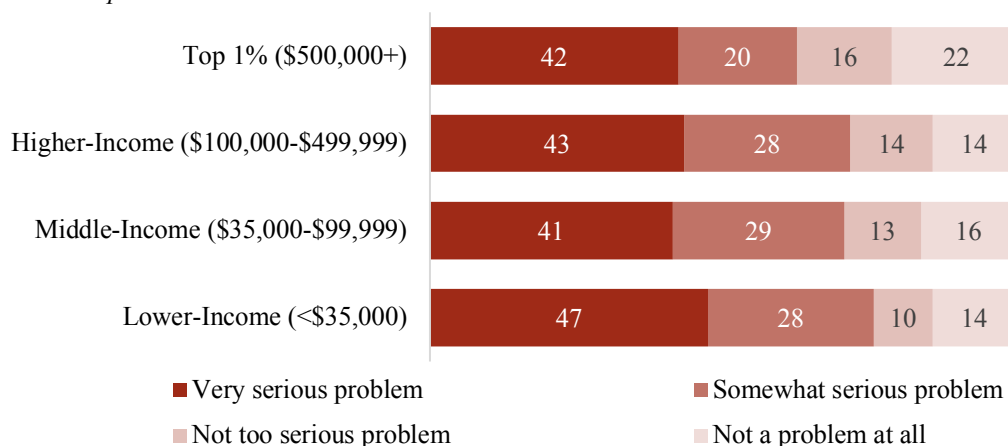
When asked their views about income inequality, fewer than half of adults across all income categories say they think income differences between the rich and the poor or between the rich and the middle-class are very serious problems in the U.S. today. On health care, the vast majority of U.S. adults across income categories say they think having a higher income allows people to get better health care. However, among those who see a relationship between income and health care, only about half of adults across income groups see this relationship as very unfair.

Across income groups, fewer than half of adults think income differences between the rich vs. poor or middle class are very serious problems

Fewer than half of all adults across all income groups believe income differences between the rich and the poor are a very serious problem in the U.S. today (Figure 7). This includes 42% of the highest 1% income adults, 41% of middle-income adults, and 47% of lower-income adults who say income differences between the rich and the poor are a very serious problem in the U.S. today.

Figure 7. Beliefs about the Income Gap between the U.S. Rich and Poor, By Annual Household Income (in Percent)

Q10. Do you think income differences between the rich and the poor in the U.S. today are a very serious problem, somewhat serious problem, not too serious problem, or not a problem at all?

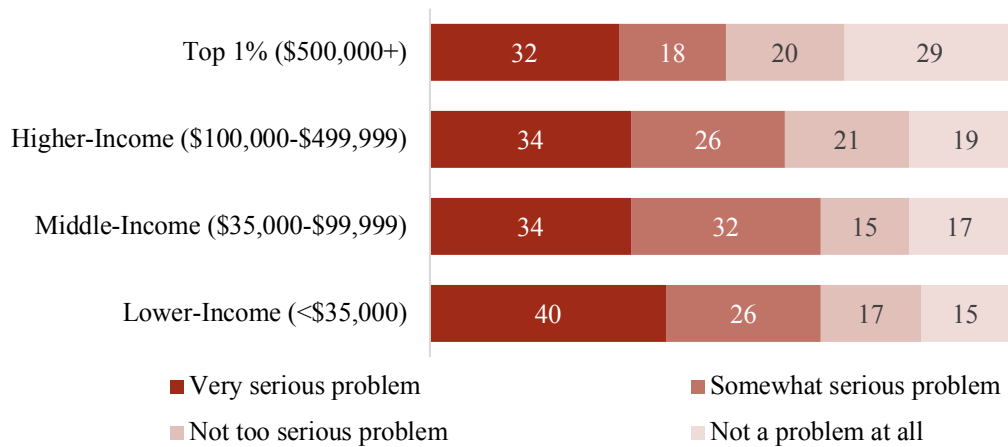


NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q10. N=1,885 adults ages 18+.

Views are similar when it comes to income differences between the rich and the middle class (Figure 8). Across income groups, four in ten or fewer adults believe income differences between the rich and the middle-class are a very serious problem in the U.S. today, as 32% of the highest 1% income adults, 34% of middle-income adults, and 40% of lower-income adults say this.

Figure 8. Beliefs about the Income Gap between the U.S. Rich and Middle Class, By Annual Household Income (in Percent)

Q11. Do you think income differences between the rich and the middle class in the U.S. today are a very serious problem, somewhat serious problem, not too serious problem, or not a problem at all?



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q11. N=1,885 adults ages 18+.

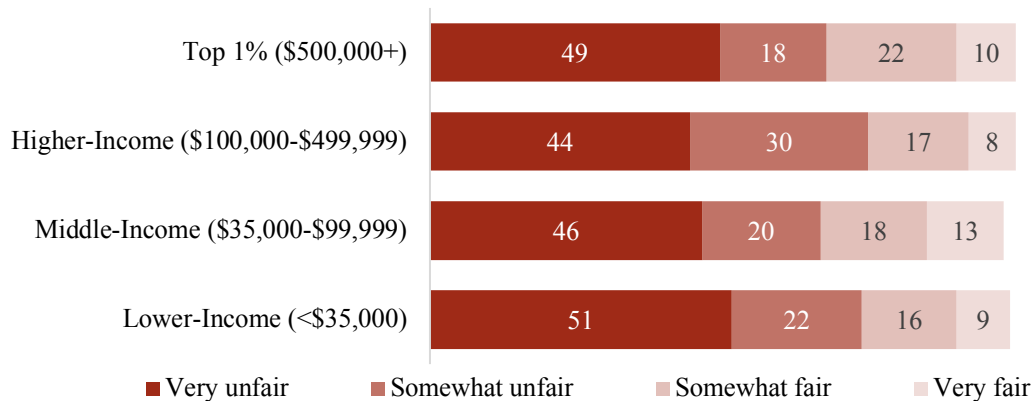
Vast majority of U.S. adults believe having a higher income allows people to get better health care

More than seven in ten adults across all income categories say people with higher incomes can get better health care than people with lower incomes, including 72% of adults with the top 1% highest incomes, 78% of middle-income adults, and 86% of lower-income adults.

However, among those who see a relationship between income and health care, only about half of adults across income groups say it is very unfair that people with higher incomes can get better health care than people with lower incomes (49% of the top 1% highest income adults, 46% of middle-income adults, and 51% of lower-income adults, see Figure 9).

Figure 9. Views on Income and Health Care, By Annual Household Income (in Percent)

Q13. [Asked among adults who say higher income people can get better health care]: How fair or unfair do you think it is that people with higher incomes can get better health care than people with lower incomes? Do you think it is very fair, somewhat fair, somewhat unfair, or very unfair?



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q13. N=1,557 adults ages 18+.

IX. Views on Policies

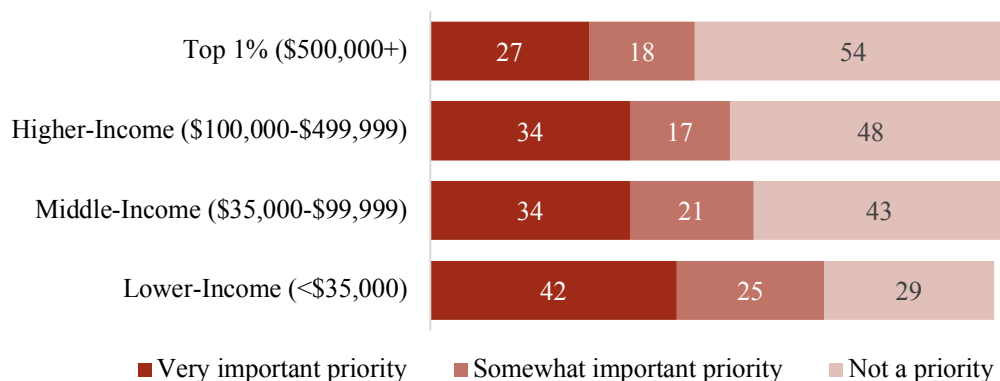
When it comes to reducing income inequality, only about one in four adults in the top 1% highest income group believe it should be a very important priority for government to address this issue. Unlike narrowing the income gap, a majority of adults across all income groups say it is a very important priority for government to make sure everyone living in the U.S. has health insurance coverage. While a majority of adults across income groups do not believe it is a top priority for government to reduce income inequality, an overall majority do believe very wealthy Americans should pay more in taxes than they do now.

Only about one in four of the top 1% believe it should be a very important priority for government to reduce income inequality between the rich and poor

When it comes to reducing income differences between people with high incomes and those with low incomes, only about one in four adults with the top 1% highest incomes (27%) believe it should be a very important priority for the President and Congress to address this issue, compared to about four in ten lower-income adults (42%) who believe this (Figure 10). Meanwhile, about one in three middle-income adults (34%) believe it should be a very important priority for the President and Congress to address income inequality.

Figure 10. Beliefs about Government Reducing Income Inequality, By Annual Household Income (in Percent)

Q17. In the future, should it be a priority or not for the President and Congress to reduce income differences between people with high incomes and those with low incomes? [If yes]: Should it be a very important or somewhat important priority?



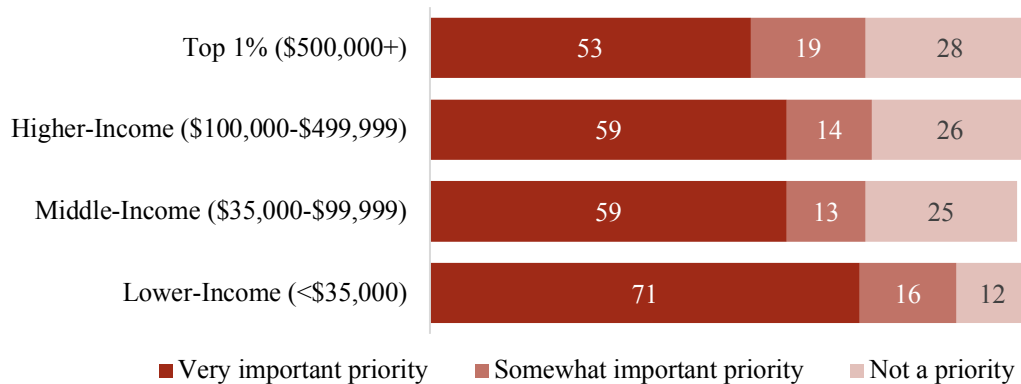
NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q17. N=1,885 adults ages 18+.

Majority of U.S. adults across all income groups believe health insurance coverage should be a very important priority for government

Unlike reducing income inequality, a majority of adults across all income groups say it is a very important priority for government to make sure everyone living in the U.S. has health insurance coverage (Figure 11). A slight majority of adults with the top 1% highest incomes (53%) say it should be a very important priority for the President and Congress to make sure everyone living in the U.S. has health insurance coverage, while 59% of middle-income adults and 71% of lower-income adults share this view.

Figure 11. Beliefs about Government and Health Insurance Coverage, By Annual Household Income (in Percent)

Q16. In the future, should it be a priority or not for the President and Congress to make sure everyone living in the United States has health insurance coverage? [If yes]: Should it be a very important or somewhat important priority?



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q16. N=1,885 adults ages 18+.

Overall, a majority of U.S. adults believe very wealthy Americans should pay more in taxes

While a majority of adults across income groups do not believe it is a top priority for government to reduce income inequality, an overall majority (57%) do believe very wealthy Americans should pay more in taxes than they do now. This includes nearly half of the top 1% highest income adults (48%) and majorities of middle-income and lower-income adults (55% and 61%, respectively) who believe very wealthy Americans should pay more in taxes than they do now.

X. Views on Public Health Issues

When it comes to the biggest health problems facing their local communities, the most-cited health problems among the top 1% highest income adults are obesity and drug addiction/abuse. Among middle-income adults, the most-cited health problems are drug addiction/abuse and health care access. Among lower-income adults, the most-cited health problems are drug addiction/abuse, health care access, and cancer.

Drug addiction, health care access, obesity, and cancer cited as biggest community health problems

Among the top 1% highest income adults, obesity (20%) and drug addiction/abuse (19%) are cited as the biggest health problems facing their local communities (see Table 6). Among middle-income adults, drug addiction/abuse (18%) and health care access (11%) are cited as the biggest health problems facing their local communities. And among lower-income adults, drug addiction/abuse (18%), health care access (11%), and cancer (11%) are cited as the biggest health problems facing their local communities.

Table 6. Biggest Community Health Problems, By Annual Household Income (in Percent)

Q21. What would you say is the biggest health problem facing your local community? [Open-ended]

	Lower-Income Adults	Middle-Income Adults	Higher-Income Adults	Top 1% Income Adults
Drug addiction/abuse	18	18	18	19
Health care access	11	11	13	15
Obesity	5	7	15	20
Cancer	11	9	5	5
Health care costs	5	6	6	1
Diabetes	4	6	4	3

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States, 7/17/19 – 8/18/19. Q21. N=1,885 adults ages 18+. Categories ranked by overall highest % among all respondents. No other problems were mentioned by more than 5% of adults in any income category.

**Fewer adults in the top 1% have concerns about childhood vaccines
compared to lower- and middle-income adults**

When asked about concern over the safety of childhood vaccines for diseases such as measles, mumps, and rubella, only 14% of the top 1% highest income adults say they are very concerned. By contrast, 32% of middle-income adults and 38% of lower-income adults say they are very concerned over the safety of childhood vaccines for diseases such as measles, mumps, and rubella.

**More than four in ten U.S. adults share concerns about
climate change across income levels**

When asked about concern over global warming or climate change, more than four in ten across all income groups (47% of the top 1% highest income adults, 42% of middle-income adults, and 47% of the lowest-income adults) say they are very concerned about this issue.

XI. Methodology

The poll in this study is part of an on-going series of surveys developed by researchers at the Harvard Opinion Research Program (HORP) at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and NPR. The research team consists of the following members at each institution.

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health: Robert J. Blendon, Professor of Health Policy and Political Analysis and Executive Director of HORP; John M. Benson, Senior Research Scientist and Managing Director of HORP; and Mary Findling, Senior Research Specialist.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Carolyn Miller, Senior Program Officer, Research and Evaluation; Jordan Reese, Director of Media Relations; Martina Todaro, Research Associate.

NPR: Andrea Kissack, Senior Supervising Editor, Science Desk; Joe Neel, Deputy Senior Supervising Editor, Science Desk.

Interviews were conducted by SSRS of Glen Mills (PA) via telephone (including both landline and cell phone) using random-digit dialing, July 17 – August 18, 2019, among a nationally representative probability-based sample of 1,885 U.S. adults age 18 or older. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. The sample was stratified in four groups⁵ by household income.

	Number of interviews (unweighted)	Margin of error at the 95% confidence level (percentage points)	Weighted % of total sample
Total adults	1,885	+/-3.2	100
Income groups (household income)			
Less than \$35,000	516	+/-5.5	27
\$35,000 - \$99,999	687	+/-5.0	44
\$100,000 - \$499,999	408	+/-6.5	27
\$500,000 or more	250	+/-8.7	1

Possible sources of non-sampling error include non-response bias, as well as question wording and ordering effects. Non-response in telephone surveys produces some known

⁵ Top 1% highest income defined as household incomes of \$500,000+/year, using Census data. Higher-income defined as \$100,000-\$499,999/year, or more than four times the 2019 federal poverty level (FPL) for a four-person family, up to the top 2% highest household incomes. Middle-income defined as \$35,000-\$99,999/year, or above 138% FPL up to approximately four times the 2019 FPL for a four-person household. Lower-income defined as <\$35,000/year, or less than 138% of the 2019 FPL for a four-person household. 138% FPL is the eligibility threshold for some federal aid programs for low-income households; [see HHS Poverty Guidelines for 2019](#) for detailed information on FPL.

biases in survey-derived estimates because participation tends to vary for different subgroups of the population. To compensate for these known biases and for variations in probability of selection within and across households, sample data are weighted by cell phone/landline use and demographics (sex, age, education, and Census region) to reflect the true population. Other techniques, including random-digit dialing, replicate subsamples, and systematic respondent selection within households, are used to ensure that the sample is representative. For responses using 3–6-point scales, the analysis focuses on responses at the end of the scale (e.g., “very concerned”), which better predict behavior than other response combinations.⁶

⁶ For additional research on this topic, see [Krosnik 1988](#); [Weaver 1991](#); [Epstein and Segal 2000](#); and [Fournier et al. 2003](#)

NPR
ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION
HARVARD T.H. CHAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Life Experiences and Income Inequality in the United States

This survey was conducted for National Public Radio, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, via telephone (landline and cell phone) by SSRS, an independent research company. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish using random-digit dialing, **July 17 – August 18, 2019**, among a nationally representative probability-based sample of 1,885 U.S. adults age 18 or older. The sample was stratified in four groups by household income.

	Number of interviews (unweighted)	Margin of error at the 95% confidence level (percentage points)	Weighted % of total sample
Total adults	1,885	+/-3.2	100
Income groups (household income)			
Less than \$35,000	516	+/-5.5	27
\$35,000 - \$99,999	687	+/-5.0	44
\$100,000 - \$499,999	408	+/-6.5	27
\$500,000 or more	250	+/-8.7	1

Table of Contents

	Page #
I. Values, Views, and Mindsets on Opportunity, Achievement, and Inequality	2
II. Life Experiences	8
III. Experiences with Health Care	14
IV. Miscellaneous	18
V. Health Demographics	19
VI. Demographics	21

I. Values, Views, and Mindsets on Opportunity, Achievement, and Inequality

Q4. On achieving the ‘American Dream,’ do you believe you have achieved the American Dream, you’re on your way to achieving it, or is it out of reach for you?

	Achieved the American Dream	On way to achieving it	Out of reach	Don’t know/ Refused
Total	38	40	19	3
Less than \$35,000	20	36	40	4
\$35,000 - \$99,999	37	45	15	3
\$100,000 - \$499,999	54	39	5	2
\$500,000 or more	73	24	3	*

(Asked of those who are the parent or guardian of a child under age 18)

Q7a. For your children, do you believe they will achieve the American Dream in the future, or do you think it is out of reach for them?

(Asked of those who are not the parent or guardian of a child under age 18 but have any grandchildren;)

Q7b. For your grandchildren, do you believe they will achieve the American Dream in the future, or do you think it is out of reach for them?

Q7a/Q7b Combo Table

Based on those who are the parent or guardian of a child under age 18 or have any grandchildren; Total n=1,131; Less than \$35,000 n=314; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=407; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=242; \$500,000 or more n=155

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Children/Grandchildren will achieve the American Dream in the future	76	70	78	81	80
The American Dream is out of reach for them	17	22	16	13	11
Don’t know/Refused	7	8	6	6	9

Q8. Compared to when you were a child, do you think it’s harder or easier in the United States today for the average person to graduate from college, or is it about the same?

	Harder	Easier	About the same	Don’t know/ Refused
Total	41	25	31	3
Less than \$35,000	41	20	37	2
\$35,000 - \$99,999	42	27	28	3
\$100,000 - \$499,999	40	29	29	2
\$500,000 or more	34	36	30	*

Q9. Compared to when you were a child, do you think it’s harder or easier in the United States today for the average person to earn a middle-class income, or is it about the same?

	Harder	Easier	About the same	Don’t know/ Refused
Total	52	17	31	*
Less than \$35,000	56	14	29	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	49	21	29	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	50	13	36	1
\$500,000 or more	47	21	32	*

Q10. Do you think income differences between **the rich and the poor** in the U.S. today are a very serious problem, somewhat serious problem, not too serious problem, or not a problem at all?

	<i>Very/ somewhat serious problem (net)</i>	<i>Not too serious/ not a problem at all (net)</i>	Very serious problem	Somewhat serious problem	Not too serious problem	Not a problem at all	Don't know/ Refused
Total	71	28	43	28	13	15	1
Less than \$35,000	75	24	47	28	10	14	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	70	29	41	29	13	16	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	71	28	43	28	14	14	1
\$500,000 or more	62	38	42	20	16	22	-

Q11. Do you think income differences between **the rich and the middle class** in the U.S. today are a very serious problem, somewhat serious problem, not too serious problem, or not a problem at all?

	<i>Very/ somewhat serious problem (net)</i>	<i>Not too serious/ not a problem at all (net)</i>	Very serious problem	Somewhat serious problem	Not too serious problem	Not a problem at all	Don't know/ Refused
Total	64	34	35	29	17	17	2
Less than \$35,000	66	32	40	26	17	15	2
\$35,000 - \$99,999	66	32	34	32	15	17	2
\$100,000 - \$499,999	60	40	34	26	21	19	*
\$500,000 or more	50	49	32	18	20	29	1

Q12. In the U.S., do you think people with higher incomes can get better health care than people with lower incomes, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	80	19	1
Less than \$35,000	86	13	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	78	20	2
\$100,000 - \$499,999	79	20	1
\$500,000 or more	72	27	1

(Asked of those who say that higher income people can get better health care; Total n=1,557; Less than \$35,000 n=442; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=565; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=336; \$500,000 or more n=194)

Q13. How fair or unfair do you think it is that people with higher incomes can get better health care than people with lower incomes? Do you think it is very fair, somewhat fair, somewhat unfair, or very unfair?

	<i>Fair (net)</i>	<i>Unfair (net)</i>	Very fair	Somewhat fair	Somewhat unfair	Very unfair	Don't know/ Refused
Total	28	70	11	17	24	46	2
Less than \$35,000	25	73	9	16	22	51	2
\$35,000 - \$99,999	31	66	13	18	20	46	3
\$100,000 - \$499,999	25	74	8	17	30	44	1
\$500,000 or more	32	67	10	22	18	49	1

Q14. For each of the following, please tell me how important you think it is for being economically successful in America today. How important is (INSERT ITEM)?

a. Hard work

	Essential	Very important, but not essential	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not important at all	Don't know/ Refused
Total	49	40	8	2	1	*
Less than \$35,000	41	46	10	1	2	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	50	39	8	1	1	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	56	34	6	2	1	1
\$500,000 or more	62	31	4	*	2	1

b. Knowing the right people

	Essential	Very important, but not essential	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not important at all	Don't know/ Refused
Total	18	42	27	7	5	1
Less than \$35,000	26	42	22	5	5	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	16	45	27	6	5	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	13	39	33	6	8	1
\$500,000 or more	17	34	32	13	4	-

c. A person's racial or ethnic background

	Essential	Very important, but not essential	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not important at all	Don't know/ Refused
Total	7	20	22	17	33	1
Less than \$35,000	10	23	18	16	31	2
\$35,000 - \$99,999	6	18	23	16	36	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	6	20	23	18	32	1
\$500,000 or more	6	21	26	18	28	1

d. Coming from an upper-income family

	Essential	Very important, but not essential	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not important at all	Don't know/ Refused
Total	6	29	30	17	17	1
Less than \$35,000	10	27	27	16	18	2
\$35,000 - \$99,999	6	31	28	17	16	2
\$100,000 - \$499,999	3	26	33	18	19	1
\$500,000 or more	9	24	30	18	19	*

e. Having well-educated parents

	Essential	Very important, but not essential	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not important at all	Don't know/ Refused
Total	12	36	31	12	9	*
Less than \$35,000	15	38	30	8	8	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	14	34	30	13	8	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	6	35	34	11	13	1
\$500,000 or more	12	42	31	6	9	-

f. Growing up in an upper-income neighborhood

	Essential	Very important, but not essential	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not important at all	Don't know/ Refused
Total	6	26	32	20	15	1
Less than \$35,000	9	28	27	19	15	2
\$35,000 - \$99,999	5	25	32	20	16	2
\$100,000 - \$499,999	4	25	35	23	13	*
\$500,000 or more	9	25	30	19	17	*

g. Graduating from college

	Essential	Very important, but not essential	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not important at all	Don't know/ Refused
Total	15	40	26	11	8	*
Less than \$35,000	15	46	24	9	6	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	14	36	27	13	10	*
\$100,000 - \$499,999	16	41	27	10	6	-
\$500,000 or more	23	37	22	10	8	*

h. Graduating from a highly ranked college

	Essential	Very important, but not essential	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not important at all	Don't know/ Refused
Total	6	21	28	24	20	1
Less than \$35,000	9	30	25	20	15	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	6	19	28	27	20	*
\$100,000 - \$499,999	3	16	30	25	26	*
\$500,000 or more	4	19	35	17	25	*

- i. Graduating from a professional school beyond college, such as a medical school, law school, or business school

	Essential	Very important, but not essential	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not important at all	Don't know/ Refused
Total	9	34	32	15	9	1
Less than \$35,000	12	44	25	11	6	2
\$35,000 - \$99,999	9	32	34	16	8	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	5	28	35	20	12	*
\$500,000 or more	10	30	40	11	9	-

Q14 Summary Table

% saying that each item is essential or very important

Based on Total Respondents; Total n=1,885; Less than \$35,000 n=516; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=687; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=408; \$500,000 or more n=250

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Hard work	89	87	89	90	93
Knowing the right people	60	68	61	52	51
Graduating from college	55	61	50	57	60
Having well-educated parents	48	53	48	41	54
Graduating from a professional school beyond college, such as a medical school, law school, or business school	43	56	41	33	40
Coming from an upper-income family	35	37	37	29	33
Growing up in an upper-income neighborhood	32	37	30	29	34
Graduating from a highly ranked college	27	39	25	19	23
A person's racial or ethnic background	27	33	24	26	27

Q15. When it comes to being admitted to college, do you think college applicants from upper-income families have an unfair advantage compared to applicants who are not from upper-income families?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	65	32	3
Less than \$35,000	71	27	2
\$35,000 - \$99,999	64	32	4
\$100,000 - \$499,999	62	35	3
\$500,000 or more	52	43	5

Q16. In the future, should it be a priority or not for the President and Congress to make sure everyone living in the United States has health insurance coverage? (IF YES: Should it be a very important or somewhat important priority?)

	Very important priority	Somewhat important priority	No, not a priority	Don't know/ Refused
Total	62	15	22	1
Less than \$35,000	71	16	12	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	59	13	25	3
\$100,000 - \$499,999	59	14	26	1
\$500,000 or more	53	19	28	*

Q17. In the future, should it be a priority or not for the President and Congress to reduce income differences between people with high incomes and those with low incomes? (IF YES: Should it be a very important or somewhat important priority?)

	Very important priority	Somewhat important priority	No, not a priority	Don't know/ Refused
Total	36	21	41	2
Less than \$35,000	42	25	29	4
\$35,000 - \$99,999	34	21	43	2
\$100,000 - \$499,999	34	17	48	1
\$500,000 or more	27	18	54	1

(Asked of half-sample A; Total n=954; Less than \$35,000 n=257; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=340; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=218; \$500,000 or more n=130)

Q18. Do you think wealthy Americans should pay (more in taxes) than they do now, (less in taxes) than they do now, or should the amount wealthy Americans pay in taxes not change?

	More in taxes	Less in taxes	Amount should not change	Don't know/ Refused
Total	54	9	31	6
Less than \$35,000	59	7	28	6
\$35,000 - \$99,999	48	9	36	7
\$100,000 - \$499,999	61	8	26	5
\$500,000 or more	35	16	47	2

(Asked of half-sample B; Total n=931; Less than \$35,000 n=259; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=347; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=190; \$500,000 or more n=120)

Q19. Do you think VERY wealthy Americans should pay (more in taxes) than they do now, (less in taxes) than they do now, or should the amount VERY wealthy Americans pay in taxes not change?

	More in taxes	Less in taxes	Amount should not change	Don't know/ Refused
Total	57	7	33	3
Less than \$35,000	61	7	28	4
\$35,000 - \$99,999	55	7	35	3
\$100,000 - \$499,999	53	7	33	7
\$500,000 or more	48	14	37	1

II. Life Experiences

Q21. What would you say is the biggest HEALTH PROBLEM facing your LOCAL COMMUNITY?

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Drug and opioid addiction/abuse (NET)	19	18	18	18	19
Other drug addiction/abuse (general, drug type unspecified, cocaine, heroin, or did not mention opioid addiction/abuse)	11	12	10	9	13
Opioid addiction/abuse (painkillers, Rx painkillers, OxyContin, Vicodin, Percocet, or fentanyl)	8	6	8	9	6
Access to care	11	11	11	13	15
Obesity	9	5	7	15	20
Cancer	8	11	9	5	5
Cost	6	5	6	6	1
Diabetes	5	4	6	4	3
Mental illness	4	4	5	3	6
Heart disease/heart attack/heart failure	2	2	3	2	2
Environmental factors	2	3	2	2	1
Aging population/the elderly (care/services)	2	1	3	1	*
Poor diet/Nutrition	2	1	2	3	1
Alcohol abuse	1	2	2	1	1
Flu/influenza	1	*	*	1	-
High blood pressure	1	*	1	1	*
Homelessness	1	1	2	*	1
Smoking	1	*	1	*	1
Stress	1	*	1	1	1
Poor health choices/Not living healthy lifestyle	1	*	1	2	1
Vaccinations	1	1	1	-	*
Arthritis/joint pain	1	1	1	-	-
Diseases (Alzheimer's, STDs, other disease mentions)	1	2	1	1	1
Health concerns/Conditions (general mentions)	1	1	1	*	1
Other	5	10	2	10	4
None	1	1	2	*	3
Don't know/Refused	13	16	12	11	13

Q22. Please tell me whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with your life, in general. (IF SATISFIED: Would you say you are completely satisfied, very satisfied, or somewhat satisfied?) (IF DISSATISFIED: Would you say you are completely dissatisfied, very dissatisfied, or somewhat dissatisfied?)

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
<i>Completely/very satisfied (NET)</i>	64	44	66	82	90
Completely satisfied	24	16	26	29	38
Very satisfied	40	28	40	53	52
Somewhat satisfied	25	37	23	14	10
Somewhat dissatisfied	9	13	8	3	*
Very dissatisfied	1	3	1	1	-
Completely dissatisfied	1	2	1	*	-
Don't know/Refused	*	1	1	*	*

Q23. Next, please tell me whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied, on the whole, with each of the following aspects of your life. (First/Next) (INSERT ITEM)? (IF SATISFIED: Would you say you are completely satisfied, very satisfied, or somewhat satisfied?) (IF DISSATISFIED: Would you say you are completely dissatisfied, very dissatisfied, or somewhat dissatisfied?)

a. Your personal financial situation

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
<i>Completely/very satisfied (NET)</i>	40	20	38	61	87
Completely satisfied	15	9	14	22	49
Very satisfied	25	11	24	39	38
Somewhat satisfied	33	30	37	30	9
Somewhat dissatisfied	15	25	14	5	2
Very dissatisfied	8	14	7	3	-
Completely dissatisfied	4	11	3	1	2
Don't know/Refused	*	*	1	-	-

b. Your current housing situation

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
<i>Completely/very satisfied (NET)</i>	63	47	63	77	91
Completely satisfied	29	22	26	38	53
Very satisfied	34	25	37	39	38
Somewhat satisfied	25	29	26	20	7
Somewhat dissatisfied	7	12	7	2	1
Very dissatisfied	2	5	2	1	-
Completely dissatisfied	3	6	2	-	1
Don't know/Refused	*	1		-	-

c. Your education

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
<i>Completely/very satisfied (NET)</i>	57	46	53	71	86
Completely satisfied	28	20	25	39	46
Very satisfied	29	26	28	32	40
Somewhat satisfied	26	28	29	22	12
Somewhat dissatisfied	12	18	12	4	1
Very dissatisfied	3	3	4	2	-
Completely dissatisfied	2	4	2	1	*
Don't know/Refused	*	1	*	-	1

(Asked of those who are employed; Total n=1,064; Less than \$35,000 n=164; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=405; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=310; \$500,000 or more n=172)

d. Your job

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
<i>Completely/very satisfied (NET)</i>	63	44	58	76	83
Completely satisfied	26	12	26	30	45
Very satisfied	37	32	32	46	38
Somewhat satisfied	27	39	30	18	14
Somewhat dissatisfied	6	7	7	5	3
Very dissatisfied	2	6	2	1	*
Completely dissatisfied	2	3	2	*	*
Don't know/Refused	*	1	1	*	-

Q24. In general, how anxious are you about your future? Very anxious, somewhat anxious, not too anxious, or not anxious at all?

	Very anxious	Somewhat anxious	Not too anxious	Not anxious at all	Don't know/Refused
Total	21	31	25	23	*
Less than \$35,000	29	29	18	23	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	19	35	23	22	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	14	28	32	26	*
\$500,000 or more	9	30	30	31	*

Q25. Within the past few years, have you or any members of your household ever had a serious problem (INSERT ITEM), or not?

a. Paying for any medical bills, not including dental bills

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	29	71	*
Less than \$35,000	38	62	-
\$35,000 - \$99,999	31	69	*
\$100,000 - \$499,999	18	81	1
\$500,000 or more	5	95	-

b. Paying for any dental bills

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	24	76	*
Less than \$35,000	33	67	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	27	73	*
\$100,000 - \$499,999	15	85	-
\$500,000 or more	3	97	-

c. Paying for prescription drugs or other medication

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	23	77	*
Less than \$35,000	31	69	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	22	78	-
\$100,000 - \$499,999	16	84	-
\$500,000 or more	5	95	-

d. With the quality of the health care you received

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	21	78	1
Less than \$35,000	29	71	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	19	80	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	18	82	*
\$500,000 or more	14	85	1

e. Getting health care when you needed it

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	24	76	*
Less than \$35,000	31	68	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	26	74	-
\$100,000 - \$499,999	15	85	*
\$500,000 or more	7	93	-

f. With your rent or house payment for your primary residence

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	16	84	*
Less than \$35,000	24	76	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	17	83	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	7	92	1
\$500,000 or more	1	99	-

g. Paying your credit card debt or other debt

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	28	71	1
Less than \$35,000	33	66	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	31	69	*
\$100,000 - \$499,999	21	78	1
\$500,000 or more	6	94	-

h. With the cost of college or higher education

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	29	69	2
Less than \$35,000	33	64	3
\$35,000 - \$99,999	30	68	2
\$100,000 - \$499,999	23	76	1
\$500,000 or more	12	88	-

i. Paying for food

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	14	86	*
Less than \$35,000	30	69	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	12	88	-
\$100,000 - \$499,999	3	97	-
\$500,000 or more	*	100	-

j. Finding an affordable place to live

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	22	78	*
Less than \$35,000	35	65	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	22	78	-
\$100,000 - \$499,999	11	89	-
\$500,000 or more	4	95	1

Q26. Suppose you had an unexpected expense, and the amount came to one thousand dollars. Based on your current financial situation, would you have a problem paying off the full amount of that expense right away, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	37	63	*
Less than \$35,000	67	32	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	34	66	-
\$100,000 - \$499,999	12	88	*
\$500,000 or more	4	96	-

III. Experiences with Health Care

Q27. In the past few years, have you or any members of your household ever been seriously ill, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	43	57	-
Less than \$35,000	51	49	-
\$35,000 - \$99,999	42	58	-
\$100,000 - \$499,999	36	64	-
\$500,000 or more	30	70	-

(Asked of those who have ever been seriously ill or whose household members have ever been seriously ill in the past few years; Total n=811; Less than \$35,000 n=267; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=293; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=153; \$500,000 or more n=88)

Q28. Do you think you or they received the best treatment available in your state, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	70	27	3
Less than \$35,000	64	33	3
\$35,000 - \$99,999	73	24	3
\$100,000 - \$499,999	72	26	2
\$500,000 or more	75	25	-

Q29. Do you currently participate in any type of arrangement with a doctor where you are able to reach that doctor any time you want by paying an additional fee? This is often called concierge medicine.

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	7	92	1
Less than \$35,000	9	90	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	5	94	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	7	93	*
\$500,000 or more	22	78	*

Q30. In the past year, has the total amount that the people in your household have spent out-of-pocket for prescription medicines been more than \$10,000, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	6	93	1
Less than \$35,000	6	93	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	5	94	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	7	91	2
\$500,000 or more	6	94	*

(Asked of those who said total amount people in their household spend out-of-pocket on prescription medicines was more than \$10,000; Total n=113; Less than \$35,000 n=29; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=38; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=29; \$500,000 or more n=13)

Q31. Was paying out-of-pocket for these prescription medicines a serious problem for your household, or not a serious problem?

	Yes, a serious problem	No, not a serious problem	Don't know/ Refused
Total	65	35	-
Less than \$35,000	Not enough cases for analysis (n<50)		
\$35,000 - \$99,999	Not enough cases for analysis (n<50)		
\$100,000 - \$499,999	Not enough cases for analysis (n<50)		
\$500,000 or more	Not enough cases for analysis (n<50)		

Q30/Q31 Combo Table

Based on Total Respondents; Total n=1,885; Less than \$35,000 n=516; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=687; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=408; \$500,000 or more n=250

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Total amount that household spent out-of-pocket for prescription medicines in the past year was more than \$10,000	6	6	5	7	6
Serious problem	4	5	4	3	2
Not a serious problem	2	1	1	4	4
Total amount that household spent out-of-pocket for prescription medicines in the past year was not more than \$10,000	93	93	94	91	94
Don't know/Refused	1	1	1	2	*

Q32. Do you or any members of your household currently have any type of health insurance **that helps pay for prescription drugs**, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	84	15	1
Less than \$35,000	76	23	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	85	14	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	90	9	1
\$500,000 or more	91	7	2

(Asked of those who currently have or members of household currently have health insurance that helps pay for prescription drugs; Total n=1,647; Less than \$35,000 n=406; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=609; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=375; \$500,000 or more n=234)

Q33. In the past year, have you or any members of your household ever been told that your health insurance plan would not cover a drug prescribed by your doctor?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	38	61	1
Less than \$35,000	49	50	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	32	67	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	37	62	1
\$500,000 or more	41	59	*

(Asked of those who currently have or members of household currently have health insurance that helps pay for prescription drugs and have ever been told that their health insurance plan would not cover a drug prescribed by their doctor; Total n=625; Less than \$35,000 n=193; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=199; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=140; \$500,000 or more n=86)

Q34. Did you or they still end up filling this prescription, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	53	46	1
Less than \$35,000	48	51	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	51	48	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	59	41	*
\$500,000 or more	82	18	-

Q32/Q33/Q34 Combo Table

Based on Total Respondents; Total n=1,885; Less than \$35,000 n=516; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=687; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=408; \$500,000 or more n=250

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Yes, currently have or members of household currently have health insurance that helps pay for prescription drugs (NET)	84	76	85	90	91
Ever been told health insurance plan would not cover a drug prescribed by their doctor	32	38	28	33	37
Still end up filling the prescription	17	18	15	19	30
Did not fill the prescription	15	19	13	14	6
Have never been told health insurance plan would not cover a drug prescribed by their doctor	51	38	57	57	54
Do not have and members of household do not have health insurance that helps pay for prescription drugs	15	23	14	9	7
Don't know/Refused	1	1	1	1	2

Q35. In the past year, have you or any members of your household ever not filled a prescription or cut back on dosage because of the cost of prescription drugs, or has this not happened?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	23	77	*
Less than \$35,000	30	70	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	23	77	*
\$100,000 - \$499,999	16	84	-
\$500,000 or more	10	90	-

IV. Miscellaneous

Q36. How concerned are you about the safety of childhood vaccines for diseases such as measles, mumps, and rubella? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?

	<i>Very/ somewhat concerned (net)</i>	<i>Not too/ not at all concerned (net)</i>	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not too concerned	Not at all concerned	Don't know/ Refused
Total	49	50	31	18	16	34	1
Less than \$35,000	58	41	38	20	15	26	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	53	47	32	21	14	33	*
\$100,000 - \$499,999	34	65	20	14	19	46	1
\$500,000 or more	34	66	14	20	11	55	*

Q37. How concerned are you about global warming or climate change? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?

	<i>Very/ somewhat concerned (net)</i>	<i>Not too/ not at all concerned (net)</i>	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not too concerned	Not at all concerned	Don't know/ Refused
Total	66	34	44	22	14	20	*
Less than \$35,000	71	29	47	24	11	18	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	63	36	42	21	14	22	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	66	34	45	21	16	18	*
\$500,000 or more	64	36	47	17	8	28	-

V. Health Demographics

Q38. In general, how would you describe your own health – excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?

	Excellent	Very good	Good	Only fair	Poor	Don't know/ Refused
Total	17	28	32	18	5	*
Less than \$35,000	10	20	29	27	13	1
\$35,000 - \$99,999	15	29	35	19	2	-
\$100,000 - \$499,999	28	33	31	6	2	-
\$500,000 or more	38	36	20	4	2	*

Q39. Does any disability keep you from participating fully in work, school, housework, or other activities?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	25	75	*
Less than \$35,000	47	53	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	20	80	*
\$100,000 - \$499,999	14	86	-
\$500,000 or more	8	92	-

Q40. Now I would like to ask you about any health insurance you **CURRENTLY** have that helps pay for the cost of health care. I'm going to read a list of a few types of health insurance, and I'd like you to tell me which of these you have, if any. (First,) are you now **PERSONALLY** covered by (INSERT ITEM IN ORDER)?

- a. Private health insurance offered through an employer or union?
- b. Medicaid [IF STATE SPECIFIC NAME FOR MEDICAID IS NOT MEDICAID INSERT: also known in your state as [state specific Medicaid program]]
- c. A health insurance plan that you signed up for through a health insurance marketplace also known as [if state specific marketplace: INSERT STATE MARKETPLACE NAME in your state or] Healthcare DOT gov created by the Affordable Care Act.
- d. A health insurance plan that you bought directly from an insurance company
- e. Medicare, the government program that pays health care bills for people over age 65 and for some disabled people
- f. **(Asked of those who said no to all of the above)** Health insurance through ANY other source, including military or veteran's coverage: (OTHER SPECIFY)

(Asked of those covered through Medicare; Total n=681; Less than \$35,000 n=274; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=249; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=81; \$500,000 or more n=65)

Q41. Besides Medicare, do you have a Medicare-related PRIVATE health plan, often called Medicare Advantage, that pays for most of your doctor, hospital care, and prescription drugs?

Q40/Q41 Combo Table

Based on Total Respondents; Total n=1,885; Less than \$35,000 n=516; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=687; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=408; \$500,000 or more n=250

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Covered by any form of health insurance or health plan (NET)	92	85	93	98	96
Private health insurance through employer or union	55	22	59	81	72
Medicare/Medicaid (Sub-Net)	36	63	33	13	15
Medicare (total)	26	39	25	12	13
Medicare Only	7	12	7	3	4
Medicare Advantage	13	19	12	7	7
Medicaid (total)	18	42	13	2	2
Medicaid Only	6	14	5	-	-
Medicare + Medicaid	7	19	5	1	*
Health plan through marketplace	12	16	14	4	2
Health insurance plan purchased direct through insurance company	16	15	18	16	23
Health insurance through other source including military or veteran coverage	3	4	4	2	3
Not covered by health insurance	7	14	7	2	4
Don't know/Refused	*	1	*	*	-

VI. Demographics

Q5. Just to confirm: What is your current age?

Q5a. Could you please tell me if you are...?

	18 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 64	65 or older	Refused
Total	19	17	17	26	21	*
Less than \$35,000	23	15	12	23	28	-
\$35,000 - \$99,999	20	19	16	24	22	-
\$100,000 - \$499,999	13	17	25	33	12	*
\$500,000 or more	10	14	22	38	16	-

CHILD. Are you the parent or guardian of a child under the age of 18 living in your household?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	29	71	-
Less than \$35,000	23	77	-
\$35,000 - \$99,999	27	73	-
\$100,000 - \$499,999	37	63	-
\$500,000 or more	39	61	-

(Asked of those who are 40 or over and are not the parent or guardian of a child under age 18; Total n=1,160; Less than \$35,000 n=348; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=417; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=226; \$500,000 or more n=154)

Q6. Do you have any grandchildren?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	57	43	-
Less than \$35,000	67	33	-
\$35,000 - \$99,999	60	40	-
\$100,000 - \$499,999	44	56	-
\$500,000 or more	46	54	-

Q2. Are you, yourself, of Latino or Hispanic origin or descent, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Latin American background?

Q3. (And besides being Latino,) What is your race? Are you white, black or African American, Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander?

(Asked of those who are Hispanic and American Indian/Alaskan Native)

Q3a. With which do you identify more?

Race Table

Based on Total Respondents; Total n=1,885; Less than \$35,000 n=516; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=687; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=408; \$500,000 or more n=250

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Hispanic	16	19	16	14	6
Non-Hispanic White	64	57	65	68	79
Non-Hispanic Black	12	16	12	8	3
Non-Hispanic Asian	4	3	4	4	7
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2	3	2	2	3
Non-Hispanic Else	1	*	1	2	-
Non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	*	*	1	*	1
Non-Hispanic No Answer	2	2	*	2	1

Q42. What is the last grade or class that you completed in school?

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
High school or less (NET)	39	56	39	25	12
Less than high school (grades 1-11, grade 12 but no diploma)	8	16	7	3	2
High school graduate or equivalent (e.g. GED)	31	40	32	22	10
Some college but no degree (incl. 2 year occupational or vocational programs)	30	29	33	26	11
College or post-graduate (NET)	31	15	28	49	77
College graduate (e.g. BA, AB, BS)	20	11	19	28	34
Postgraduate (e.g. MA, MS, MEng, Med, MSW, MBA, MD, MD, DDs, PhD, JD, LLB, DVM)	11	4	9	21	43
Don't know/Refused	*	*	*	*	-

Employment Table

Based on Total Respondents; Total n=1,885; Less than \$35,000 n=516; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=687; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=408; \$500,000 or more n=250

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Employed (NET)	62	40	66	78	74
Full time	51	27	55	68	65
Part time	11	13	11	10	9
Not Employed (NET)	37	58	33	22	26
Retired	20	30	20	11	15
Homemaker	5	4	6	5	6
Student	2	4	1	2	3
Disabled	5	15	2	*	*
Temporarily Unemployed	3	6	3	2	1
Other	2	-	1	2	1
Don't know/Refused	1	2	1	*	-

Q43. Thinking about your personal financial situation, would you describe yourself as (upper-class), middle-class, (working-class), or something else? (IF SOMETHING ELSE: How would you describe yourself?)

	Upper-class	Middle-class	Working-class	Lower-class/Poor	Something else	Don't know/Refused
Total	7	45	41	4	2	1
Less than \$35,000	3	25	54	14	4	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	1	49	47	1	1	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	17	60	20	1	2	*
\$500,000 or more	66	24	7	-	*	3

Q44. Are you currently married, living with a partner, divorced, separated, widowed or have you never been married?

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Married/Partnered (NET)	59	32	62	81	84
Married	52	26	53	76	82
Living with a partner	7	6	9	5	2
Not married/Partnered (NET)	41	68	38	19	16
Divorced	10	17	9	4	1
Separated	3	5	4	1	*
Widowed	6	12	6	1	2
Never been married	22	34	19	13	13
Refused	*	1	-	-	-

Q45. Is your home owned or rented (if <40 years old: or do you live in a dorm or live with your parents)?

	Owned	Rented	Live in a dorm	Live with your parents	Don't know/ Refused
Total	64	29	1	5	1
Less than \$35,000	42	49	1	8	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	67	28	1	4	*
\$100,000 - \$499,999	83	12	*	4	1
\$500,000 or more	87	7	-	7	*

(Asked of those were interviewed starting July 22, 2019; Total n=1,801; Less than \$35,000 n=484; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=652; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=395; \$500,000 or more n=248)

Q45a. Are you registered to vote at your present address, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	82	18	*
Less than \$35,000	75	25	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	81	19	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	89	11	-
\$500,000 or more	94	6	*

Q46. Did you vote in the 2018 congressional election, did something prevent you from voting, or did you choose not to vote?

	Yes, voted	No, did not vote	Don't know/ Refused
Total	71	28	1
Less than \$35,000	56	44	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	71	28	1
\$100,000 - \$499,999	86	14	*
\$500,000 or more	87	13	-

PARTY. In politics today, do you consider yourself a (Republican), (Democrat), an Independent, or what?

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Other/None	Don't know/ Refused
Total	25	31	33	9	2
Less than \$35,000	20	35	34	8	3
\$35,000 - \$99,999	25	27	36	9	3
\$100,000 - \$499,999	29	33	28	9	1
\$500,000 or more	33	32	31	4	-

PARTY. In politics today, do you consider yourself a (Republican), (Democrat), an Independent, or what? (If **independent, other party, don't know, or refused to say, ask**) PARTYLEAN. Do you LEAN more towards the (Republican) Party or the (Democratic) Party?

Party/Partylean Combo Table

Based on Total Respondents; Total n=1,885; Less than \$35,000 n=516; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=687; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=408; \$500,000 or more n=250

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Republican/Republican leaners	39	31	41	43	46
Democrat/Democratic leaners	46	50	43	47	45
Independent	11	14	11	19	7
Other party	1	1	1	*	1
Don't know/Refused	3	4	4	1	1

Q47. Generally speaking, would you describe your political views as...?

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Conservative (NET)	37	33	41	34	41
Very conservative	14	14	16	10	13
Somewhat conservative	23	19	25	24	28
Moderate	31	31	31	32	28
Liberal (NET)	28	29	25	33	29
Somewhat liberal	17	16	16	23	14
Very liberal	11	13	9	10	15
Don't know/Refused	4	7	3	1	2

Q48. Are you now, or have you ever been a member of the U.S. military?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
Total	13	87	*
Less than \$35,000	10	90	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	15	85	-
\$100,000 - \$499,999	12	88	*
\$500,000 or more	7	93	-

Income Table

Based on Total Respondents; Total n=1,885; Less than \$35,000 n=516; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=687; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=408; \$500,000 or more n=250

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Under 15 thousand dollars	8	28	-	-	-
15 to under 20 thousand	4	15	-	-	-
20 to under 25 thousand	5	19	-	-	-
25 to under 35 thousand	9	33	-	-	-
Under 35 thousand (unspecified)	1	5	-	-	-
35 to under 50 thousand	13	-	30	-	-
50 to under 75 thousand	16	-	37	-	-
35 to under 75 thousand (unspecified)	1	-	1	-	-
75 to under 100 thousand	14	-	32	-	-
100 to under 150 thousand	13	-	-	48	-
150 to under 200 thousand	7	-	-	27	-
200 to under 250 thousand	3	-	-	11	-
250 thousand to under 500 thousand	4	-	-	14	-
75 to under 500 thousand (unspecified)	1	-	-	-	-
500 thousand or more	1	-	-	-	100

RSEX. Are you male or female?

	Male	Female	Other (Vol.)	Don't know/ Refused
Total	49	51	*	*
Less than \$35,000	46	54	*	*
\$35,000 - \$99,999	51	49	*	-
\$100,000 - \$499,999	51	49	*	-
\$500,000 or more	51	49	-	-

Q50. Do you consider yourself to be heterosexual or straight, gay or lesbian, bisexual, or a different identity I haven't mentioned?

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Heterosexual or Straight	91	87	91	94	93
LGBQ (net)	7	8	6	5	6
Gay or Lesbian	3	3	3	3	2
Bisexual	3	5	3	1	2
Queer/other	*	-	*	1	2
Don't know/Refused	2	5	3	*	1

Q50a. Some people describe themselves as transgender when they experience a different gender identity from their sex at birth. For example, a person who was raised male, but who identifies as female. Some people who do not identify as either male or female might also call themselves transgender. Do you consider yourself to be transgender?

	Total	Less than \$35,000	\$35,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 or more
Yes, transgender	1	2	*	*	1
Yes, genderqueer or gender non-conforming	1	1	2	*	1
No	97	96	97	99	96
Don't know/Refused	1	1	1	*	2

LGBTQ Identity

Based on Total Respondents; Total n=1,885; Less than \$35,000 n=516; \$35,000 - \$99,999 n=687; \$100,000 - \$499,999 n=408; \$500,000 or more n=250

	LGBTQ	Cis and Straight	Don't know/ Refused
Total	8	89	3
Less than \$35,000	10	85	5
\$35,000 - \$99,999	8	89	3
\$100,000 - \$499,999	6	94	*
\$500,000 or more	6	91	3