



UNIVERSAL  
HEALTH CARE  
FOUNDATION  
of CONNECTICUT

## **SURVEY BRIEF**

**A REPORT PREPARED FOR  
UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION OF CONNECTICUT**

FEBRUARY 2007

### **ATTITUDES TOWARD HEALTH CARE REFORM IN CONNECTICUT**

This brief is based on a telephone survey of 300 registered voters in Connecticut conducted by Spectrum Associates in December 6-10, 2006. A sample of 300 provides for a statistical confidence range within +/- 5.8 at a 95% confidence level.

All individuals contacted were screened to ensure that they: (1) were registered to vote in the State of Connecticut, and (2) had health care insurance. Respondents were surveyed proportionate to the number of voter age residents in each of the state's eight counties. Interviews were conducted December 6 – 10, 2006.

The primary objectives of the survey were to determine voters':

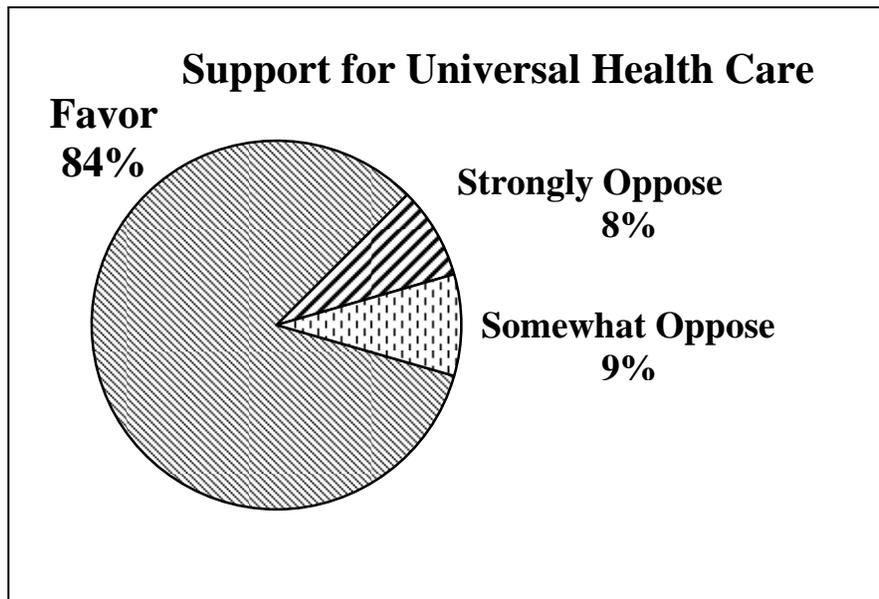
- Attitudes about the State's health care system relative to other important areas.
- Interest in and action taken to learn more about health care issues.
- Perceptions of legislators' efforts to improve the State's health care system.
- The impact of a candidate's position on health care on the respondent's voting.
- Awareness, understanding, and feelings about universal health care.
- Attitudes about who is most responsible for achieving universal health care.
- Concerns about supporting universal health care legislation.
- Awareness of the Health Care for Everyone communications campaign.

## Key Findings: Survey Highlights

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### Connecticut wants universal health care.

- Eighty-four percent of Connecticut voters favor universal health care -- as defined by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) -- for the state.
- Only eight percent of those surveyed were strongly opposed to universal health care.

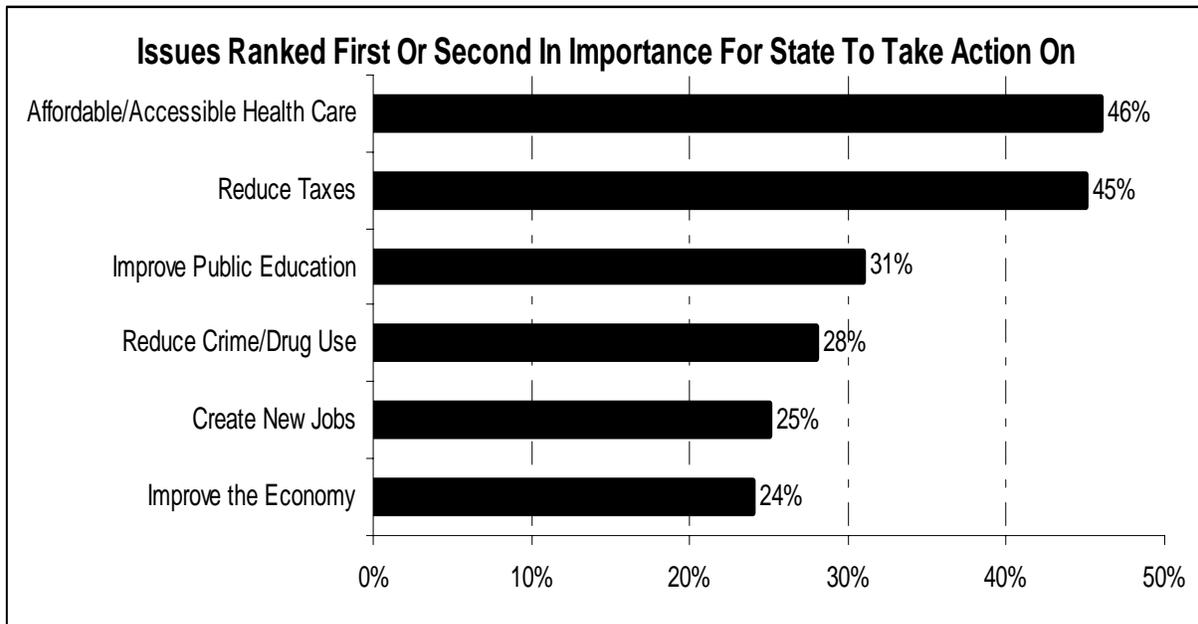


### Connecticut residents of all income brackets want universal health care.

- At least fifty-two percent of those who answered the survey earned \$50,000 or more per year.
- At least thirty-eight percent of those who answered the survey earn at least \$75,000.

**For Connecticut, universal health care is a first priority.**

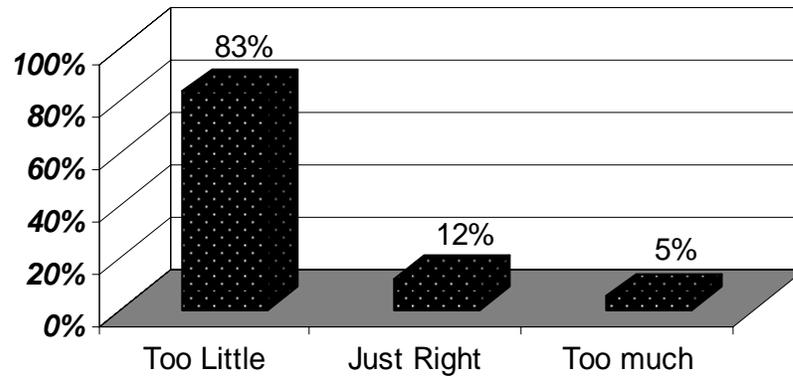
- Almost half of those surveyed – forty-six percent - said quality, affordable, accessible, universal health care was one of the two most important issues on which the state should take action
- They ranked it higher than any other issues including reducing taxes, creating jobs, and improving public education.



**Connecticut expects much more from its elected officials.**

- An overwhelming majority of those surveyed, eighty-three percent, believe that state legislators devote too little time and resources to improving the state’s health care system.
- Half believe that legislators are reluctant to act on health care reform because of powerful people who do not want change.
- Sixty-two percent place a “lot” or “some” importance on candidate’s health care position when voting.

## Perceptions of State Legislators' Efforts To Improve Connecticut's Health Care System



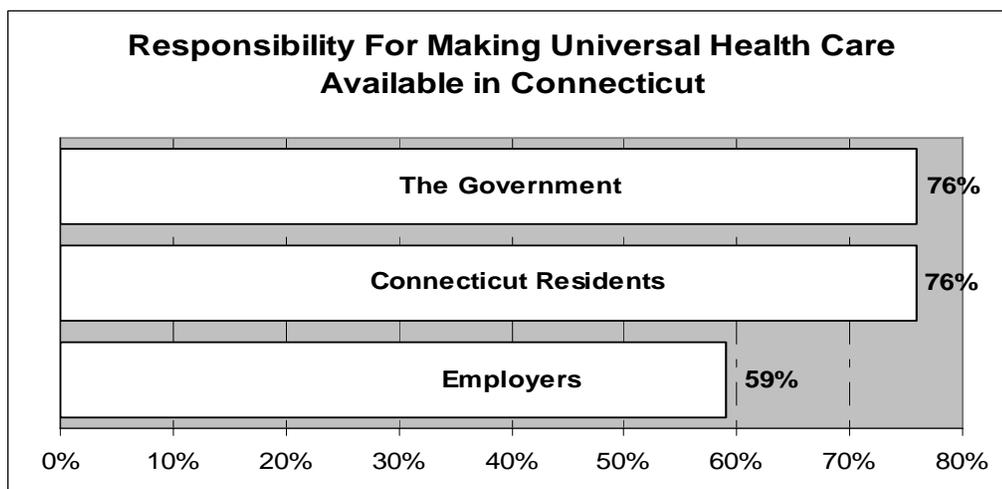
### Connecticut wants universal health care done right.

- Forty-one percent of those surveyed said they need assurance that they will continue to be able to choose their doctors and hospitals.
- Thirty-seven percent said they wanted assurance that their taxes would not go up to pay for universal health care.

### Connecticut wants universal health care to be a collaborative effort.

- Seventy-six percent of those surveyed said that both government and residents should have a major role in making universal health care available in Connecticut.
- Fifty-nine percent said employers should have a major role.

## Responsibility For Making Universal Health Care Available in Connecticut



## Connecticut wants to learn more about universal health care.

- Seventy-six percent of those surveyed were “very” or “somewhat” interested in learning more about the health care issue.
- Eighty-nine percent of those surveyed said they engaged in activities during the past six months to learn about the health care issues facing Connecticut residents

## Conclusion

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The survey conducted for Universal Health Care Foundation revealed that:

- *Connecticut wants universal health care.*
- *Connecticut residents of all income brackets want universal health care.*
- *For Connecticut, universal health care is a first priority.*
- *Connecticut expects much more from its elected officials.*
- *Connecticut wants universal health care done right.*
- *Connecticut wants universal health care to be a collaborative effort.*
- *Connecticut wants to learn more about universal health care.*

### Survey Pool

- **75% some college and above**
- **52% earn at least \$50,000**
- **32% are Democrats**
- **31% are Independents**
- **28% are Republicans**
- **100% have insurance**
- **100% are voters**

## Institute of Medicine Principles

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The IOM, led by the nation's most respected doctors and academics, has called for universal health coverage that:

- includes everyone;
- is continuous and portable regardless of changes in employment or marital status;
- is affordable to individuals, especially those with limited income;
- is affordable and sustainable to society; and
- enhances health and well-being.



The Universal Health Care  
Foundation of Connecticut

290 Pratt Street      Meriden, CT 06450  
203.639.0550      203.639.0519 Fax  
[www.universalhealthct.org](http://www.universalhealthct.org)  
[www.healthcare4every1.org](http://www.healthcare4every1.org)