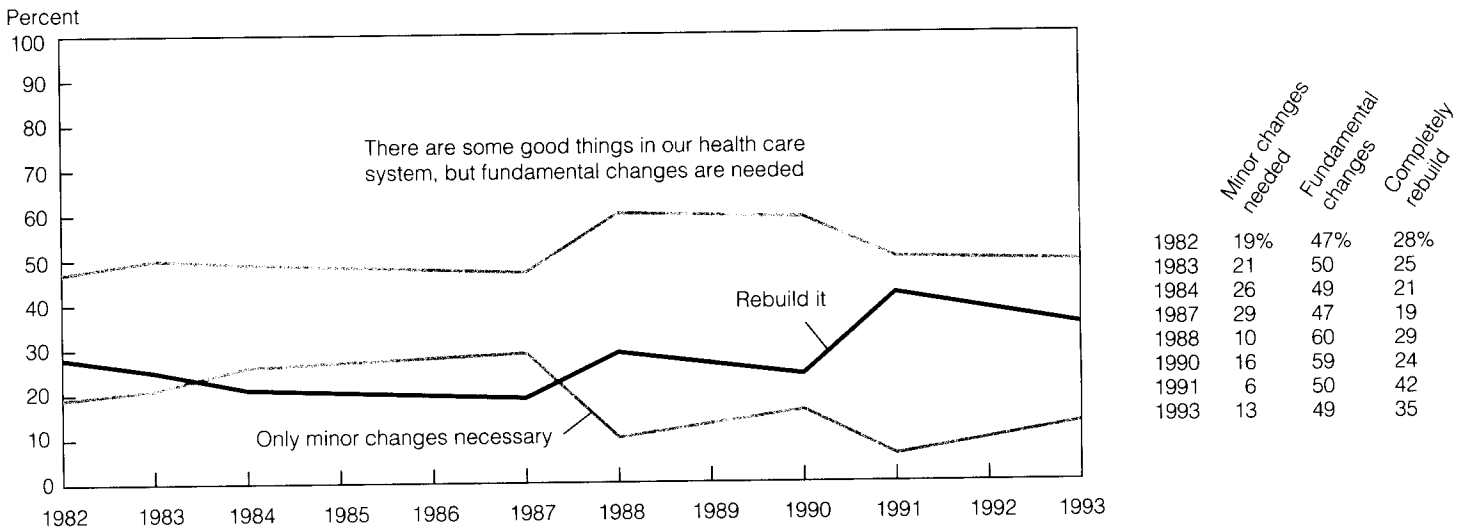


# HEALTH CARE UPDATE

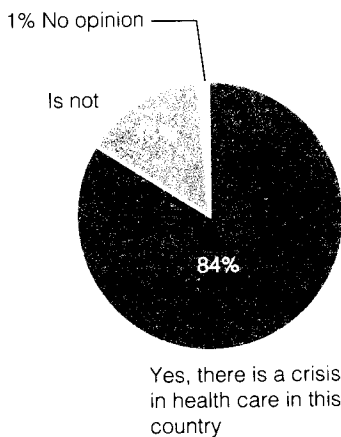
Is the health system in crisis? A lot depends on how you ask the question as the soundings below show. Today about a third say the system needs to be completely rebuilt, 13 percent say it needs minor repairs, and a strong plurality (49 percent) say there are good things in our system but that changes are needed to make it better.

Question: Which of the following statements comes closest to expressing your overall view of the country's health care system—on the whole, the health care system works pretty well and only minor changes are necessary to make it work better; there are some good things in our health care system, but fundamental changes are needed to make it better; our health care system has so much wrong with it that we need to completely rebuild it?



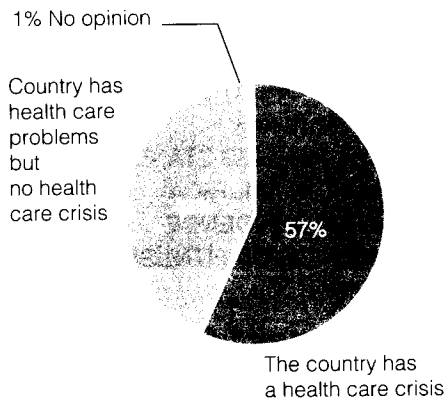
Source: Surveys by Louis Harris and Associates, latest that of August 6-30, 1993, for the Commonwealth Fund.

Question: In your opinion, is there a crisis in health care in this country today, or not?



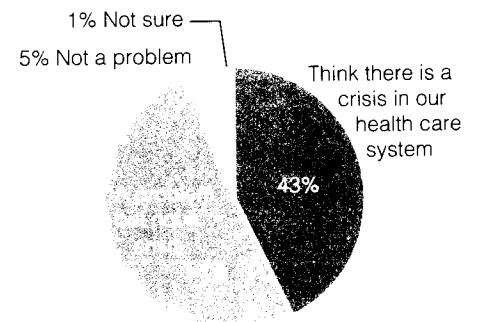
Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization for *USA Today* and CNN, January 15-17, 1994.

Question: Which of these statements do you agree with more—the country has health care problems, but no health care crisis, or the country has a health care crisis?



Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization for *USA Today* and CNN, January 28-30, 1994.

Question: In general, do you think there is a crisis in our health care system, a problem but not a crisis, or isn't there a health problem?



Source: Survey by Yankelovich Partners for *Time* and CNN, February 10, 1994.

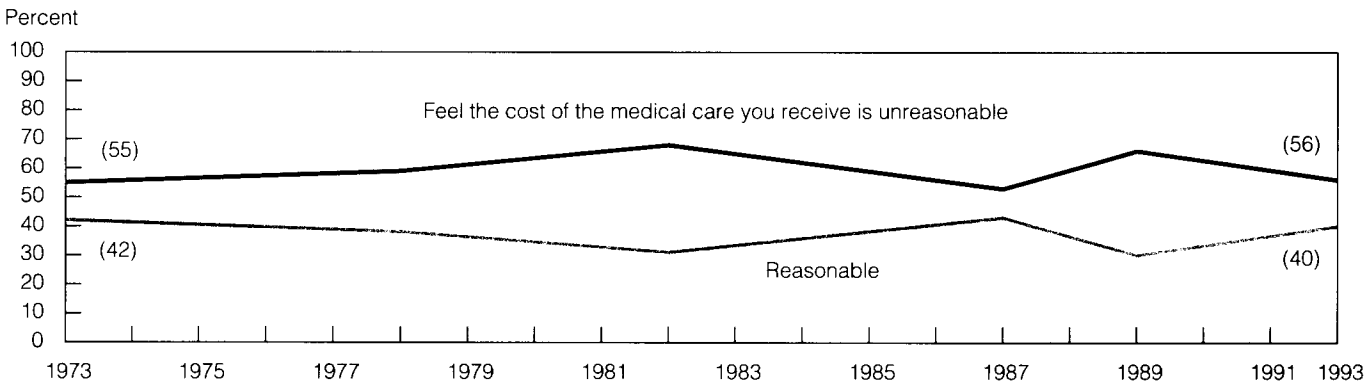
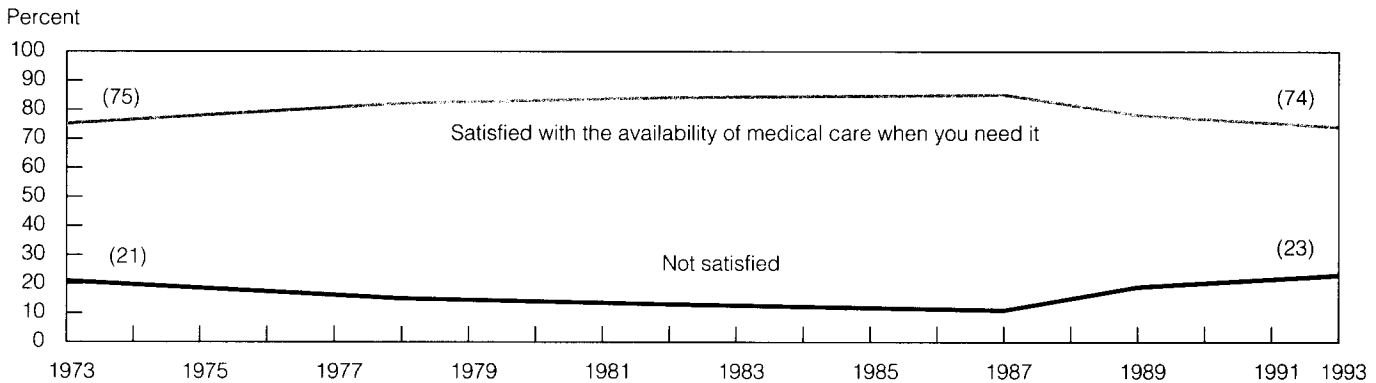
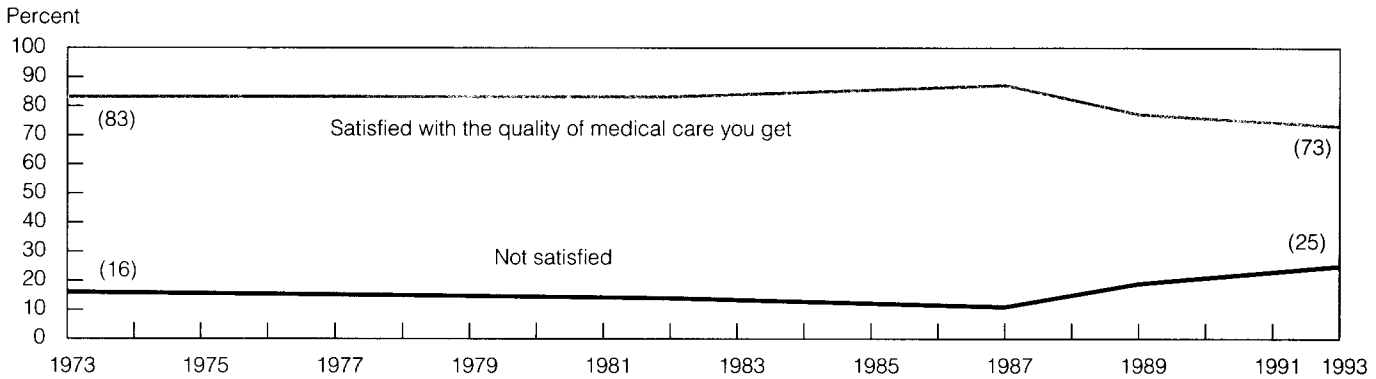
# Stable Assessments of Health Care

The Roper Organization trends here show that for 20 years Americans have been giving essentially the same responses to questions about the health of the health care system. Cost has long been a problem as the chart on the bottom of this page shows.

Question: **Thinking about all your medical needs, not just the doctor, generally speaking, how satisfied would you say you are with the quality of the medical care you get—very satisfied, fairly well satisfied, not too satisfied, or not at all satisfied?**

Question: **And how satisfied are you with the availability of medical care when you need it...?**

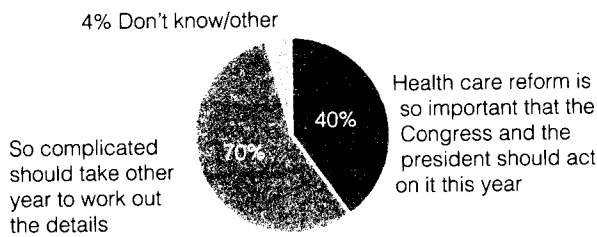
Question: **How do you feel about the cost of the medical care you receive—do you feel the cost is very reasonable, fairly reasonable, somewhat unreasonable, or very unreasonable?**



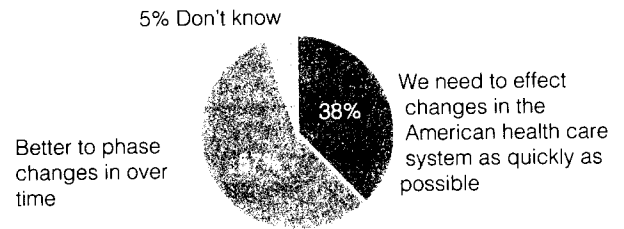
Source: Surveys by the Roper Organization (Roper Reports 93-9), latest that of September 11-18, 1993.

Americans want Congress to be cautious about health care reform, with many suggesting that changes should be phased in over time. This "go slow" attitude also undermines the notion that the public sees the health care system in crisis. Levels of knowledge about the Clinton plan remain low.

Question: **Do you think health care reform is so important the Congress and the president should act on it this year or do you think the problem is so complicated that they should take another year to work out the details?**



Question: **On another subject, do we need to effect changes in the American health care system as quickly as possible or would it be better to phase changes in over time?**

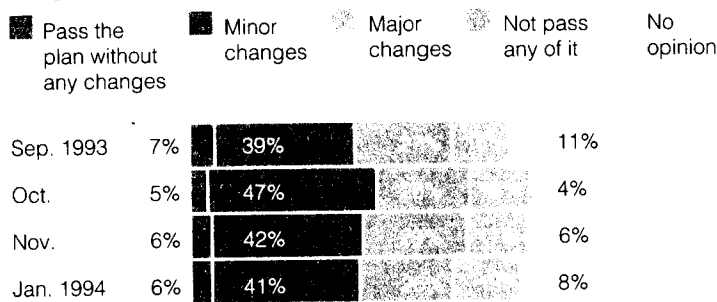


Source: Survey by CBS News/New York Times, June 1-3, 1993.

Source: Survey by the Los Angeles Times, January 15-19, 1994.

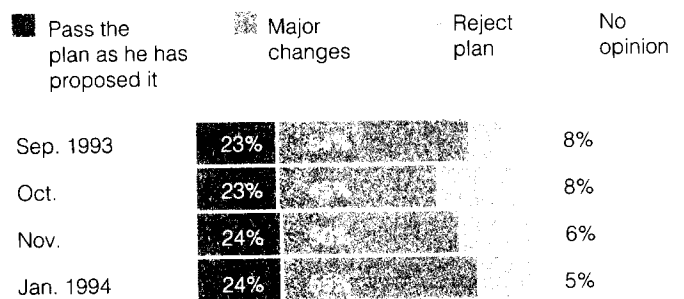
Question: **What do you think Congress should do with Clinton's health care plan...?**

Congress should...



Question: **Do you think Congress should pass the health care plan basically as Bill Clinton has proposed it?**

Congress should...

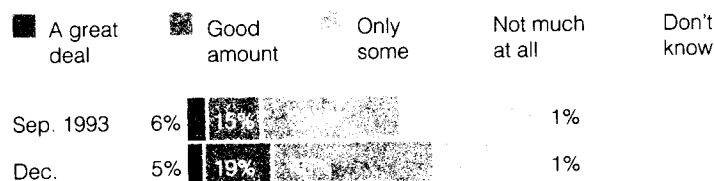


Source: Surveys by ABC News/Washington Post, latest that of January 20-23, 1994.

Source: Surveys by the Gallup Organization for USA Today and CNN, latest that of January 28-30, 1994.

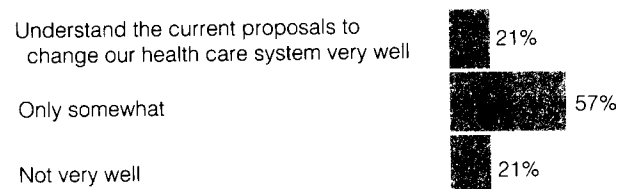
Question: **As you may know, President Clinton presented his health care reform proposals to Congress and the American people. How much do you know about the details of President Clinton's health care proposals—a great deal, a good amount, only some, or not much at all?**

How much know about the details of Clinton's health care proposals



Source: Surveys by the Los Angeles Times, latest that of December 4-7, 1993.

Question: **Thinking about the current proposals to change our health care system, would you say you understand them very well, only somewhat, or not very well?**



Note: In a February 1994 CBS/NYT survey, 83% of respondents said no when asked "Is there another health care plan you've heard about that you think would be better than the Clinton health care plan?"

Source: Survey by Yankelovich Partners for Time and CNN, February 10, 1994.