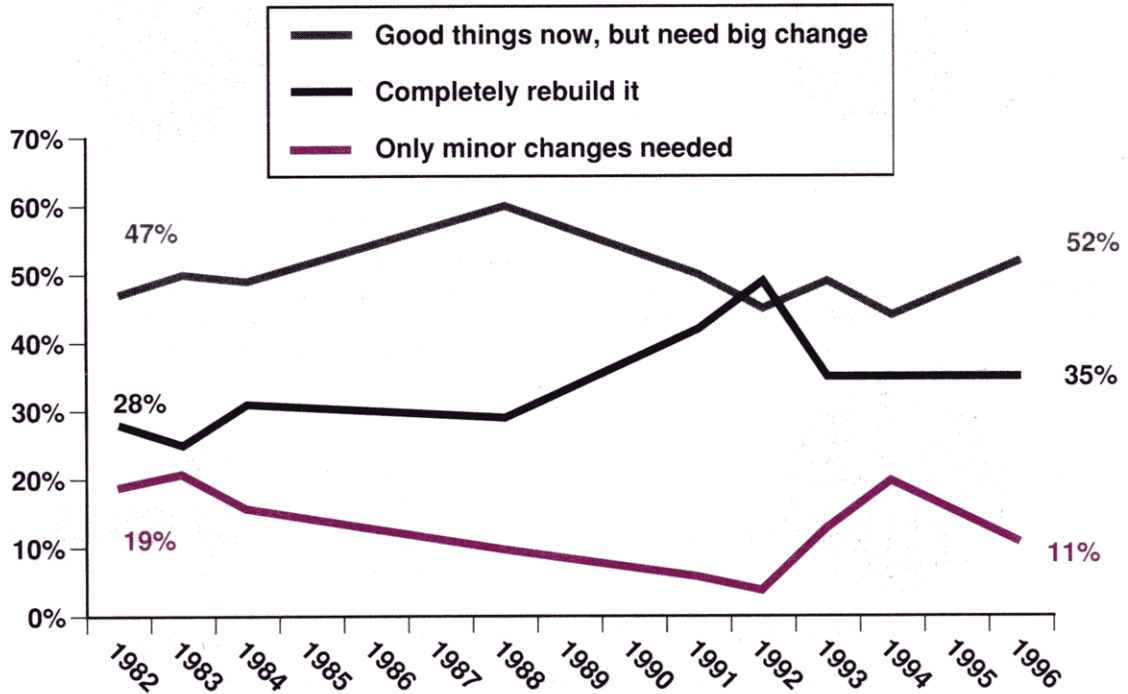


## Health Care Reform, 1993-1994

In 1993 and 1994, the US had a big debate on the country's health care system. Over the late 1980s and early 1990s, public concerns over health care had spiked sharply and—as the data in the line graph below show clearly—reached their high point around the time of the 1992 presidential election...

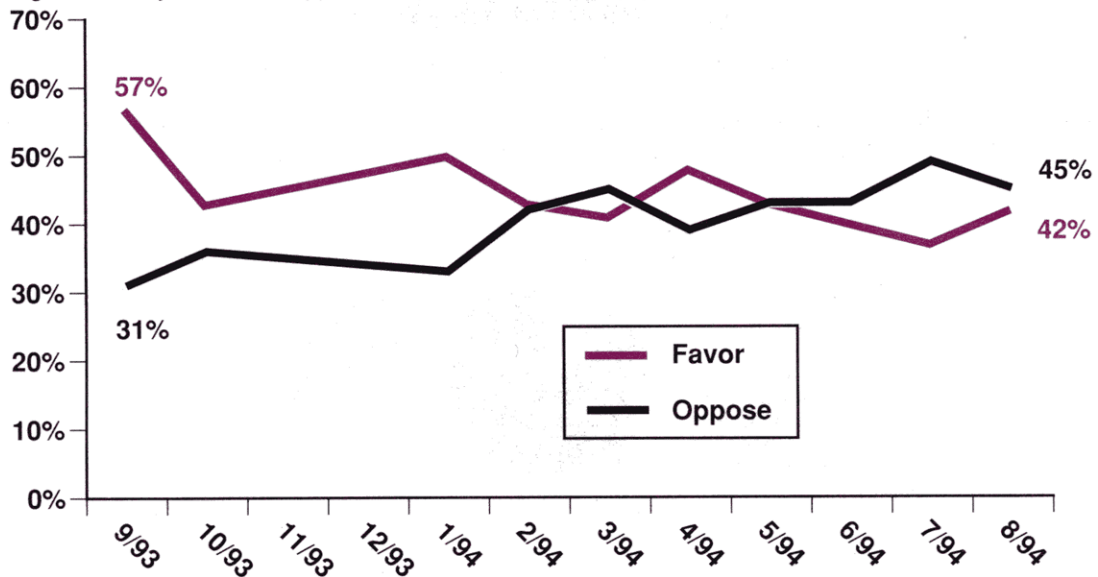
**Question:** Which of the following statements comes closest to expressing your overall view of the health care system in this country... There are some good things in our health care system, but fundamental changes are needed to make it better... Our health care system has so much wrong with it that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



Source: Surveys by Louis Harris and Associates, latest that of April 4-7, 1994.

...But as the debate proceeded, opinion moved against the Clinton proposal.

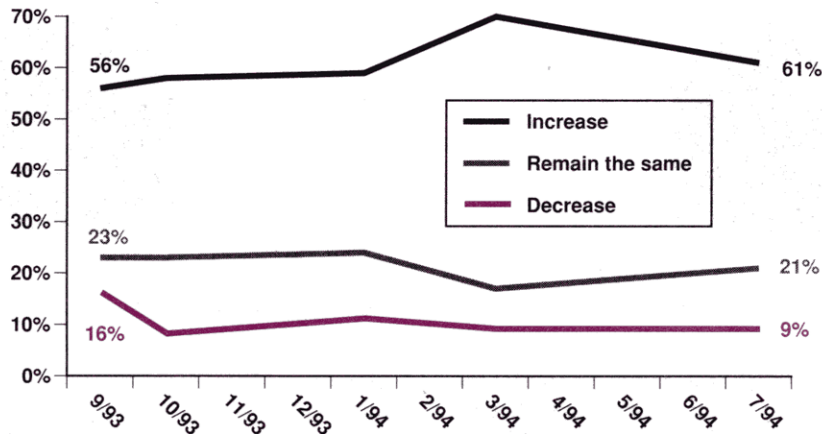
**Question:** In general, do you favor or oppose President Clinton's health care reform plan?



Source: Surveys by Yankelovich Partners for Time/CNN, latest that of July 13-14, 1994.

As the data below show, even the initial background judgements contained elements adverse to the Clinton proposals. The apparent finding that Americans saw a full blown health care "crisis"—taken by some analysts in 1992-93 to suggest strong support for action along the lines the Administration was proposing—in fact greatly overstated the public's view (charts at bottom of page).

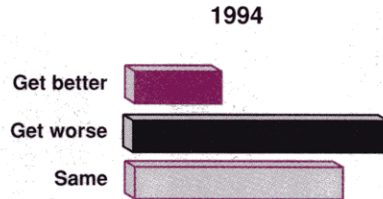
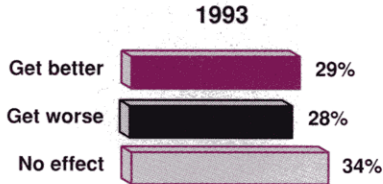
**Question:** From what you know of the health care reforms which the Administration is working on, do you think the amount you pay for medical care will increase, decrease, or remain the same?



Source: Surveys by Yankelovich Partners, Inc., for *Time/CNN*, latest that of July 13-14, 1994.

**Question:** ...From what you know of the health care reforms which the [Clinton] Administration is working on, do you think the quality of medical care available to you will get better, get worse, or have no effect?

**Question:** If health care reform is passed, do you think the quality of health care available to you will get better, become worse, or stay the same?



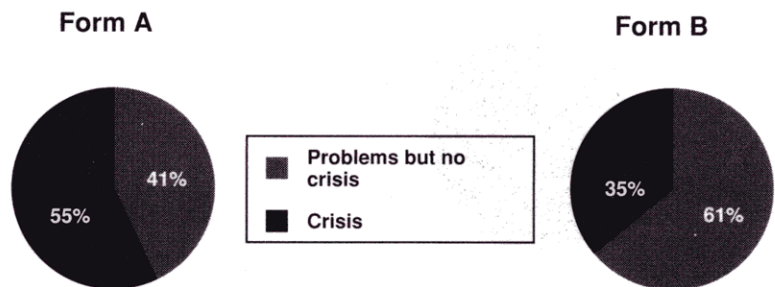
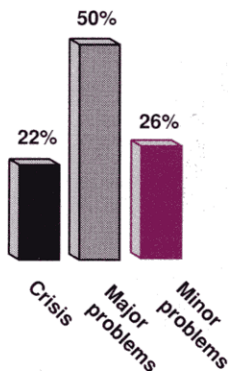
Source: Survey by Yankelovich Partners, Inc., for *Time/CNN*, September 23.

Source: Survey by Yankelovich Partners, Inc., for *Time/CNN*, July 13-14.

**Question:** Which of the following comes closest to your belief about the American health care system—the system is in crisis; the system has major problems, but is not in crisis; the system has problems, but they are not major; or the system has no problems?

**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?

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



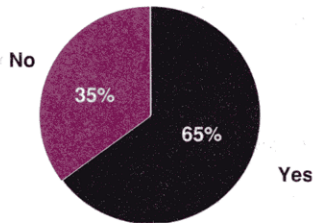
Source: Survey by NBC/*Wall Street Journal*, March 4-8, 1994.

Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization for *USA Today/CNN*, June 25-28, 1994.

## Thinking About Government

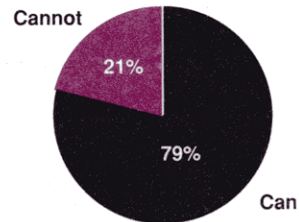
...The biggest reason for doubts about the popularity of Clinton's approach in 1993-1994 involved the widespread skepticism about a more government-centered health care system. Americans were not viscerally anti-government (top two charts), but they were certainly not enthusiastic about expanding government's reach and role....

**Question:** Turning to issues related to health care and health care reform... Do you think the federal government should guarantee health care for all Americans, or don't you think so?



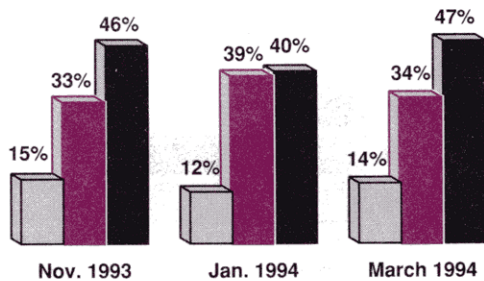
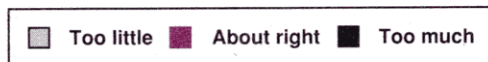
**Source:** Survey by Yankelovich Partners, Inc., for *Time/CNN*, July 13-14, 1994.

**Question:** For each issue I name, please tell me if you think the federal government can or cannot do much to make it better.... The health care system?



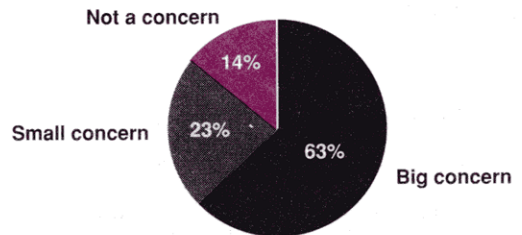
**Source:** Survey by ABC News/*Washington Post*, February 24-27, 1994.

**Question:** Do you think Clinton's [health care] plan creates too much government involvement in the nation's health care system, not enough government involvement or about the right amount?



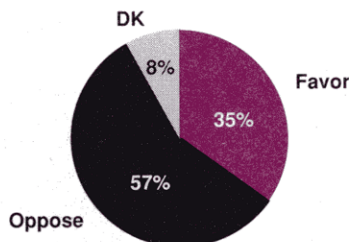
**Source:** Surveys by ABC News/*Washington Post* latest that of March 25-27, 1994.

**Question:** I'm going to mention things that might concern some people but not others about the Clinton health care plan...for each, please tell me if it's a big concern, a small concern, or not at all a concern of yours. How about...the plan would create another large and inefficient government bureaucracy?



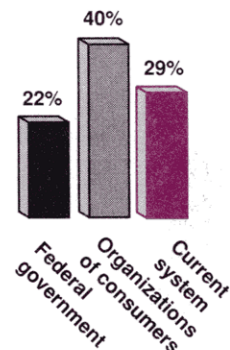
**Source:** Survey by ABC News/*Washington Post*, February 24-27, 1994.

**Question:** Would you favor or oppose a health care plan which involves paying a direct tax like Social Security, and has the government administer the system instead of private insurance companies?



**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for *USA Today/CNN*, April 16-18, 1994.

**Question:** Which of the following do you think would do the most effective job of controlling health care costs while maintaining the current quality of health care in this country—the federal government, regional organizations of consumers created by state governments, or the current system that relies on doctors, hospitals, and health insurance companies?

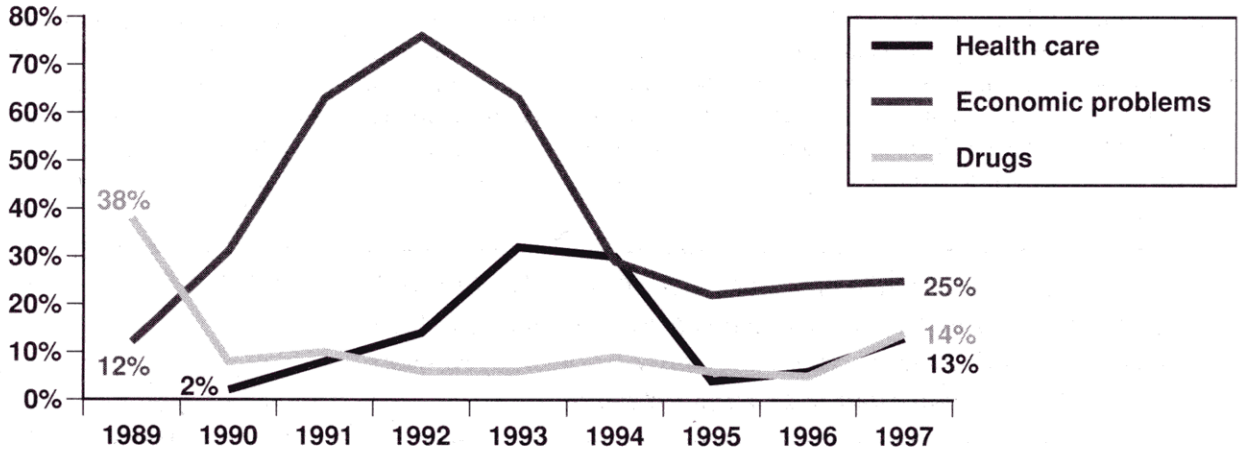


**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for *USA Today/CNN*, October 28-30, 1993.

# Health Care Reform, 1997

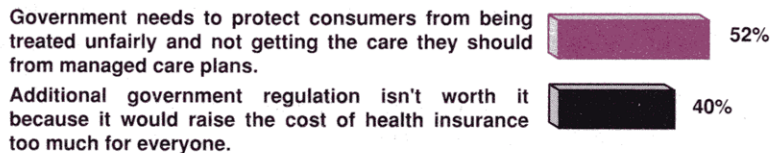
In December 1997, 14% of Americans named issues of health care the country's most important problem—far down from the 1993 figures, but up from 1995. While there's lots of dissatisfaction with HMOs, more government regulation of them fails to get a ringing endorsement.

**Question:** What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?



**Source:** Surveys by the Gallup Organization.

**Question:** The number of Americans who rely on HMOs and other managed care health plans for health coverage continues to grow. Some people say...



**Source:** Survey by Princeton Survey Research Associates for the Kaiser Family Foundation and the Harvard Program on the Public and Health/Social Policy, August 22-September 23, 1997.

**Question:** How often do you trust...?

	Your current health insurance plan to do the right thing	
	Those in traditional fee-for-service care	Those in heavy managed care
Just about always	55%	30%
Most of the time	34%	46%
Only some of the time	6%	22%
None of the time	1%	1%

**Source:** Survey by Princeton Survey Research Associates for the Kaiser Family Foundation and the Harvard Program on the Public and Health/Social Policy, August 22-September 23, 1997.