Growing Consensus on Health Care Reform

Second National Congress on Un and Under Insured
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Past Failed Attempts

- Committee on the Cost of Medical Care: 1932
- Roosevelt dropped it from Social Security
- WW II: Employers offer health insurance in lieu of wages
- True Bipartisan Failure: Truman, Kennedy, Nixon and Clinton
- Johnson passes Medicare and Medicaid
- None of current proposals will pass as constituted
- History of Ideological and political failure

Why Constant Failure?

- Public Confusion, so Divide and Conquer wins
- Reform proposals ideological and partisan
- Stakeholder opposition—AMA to PhRMA
- Employer and labor opposition
- Complexity of "System"
- Public held at arm's length
- No one trusted voice--yet

CodeBlueNow!

- National, nonpartisan, coalition building organization—501©3
- Using Consensus building approach to health care reform

Our History

- Formed in 2003 from a National Contest
- 2004 and 2005 Built Infrastructure
- 2006 Pilot Project in Oregon
- 2007 Market Research in Iowa and WA
- Funding from individual private citizens and foundations
- 2008: Pulse Partners; Spreading Results
- Goal: 2009 A Bipartisan Voters' Health Care Platform

# Consensus, Common Ground Exist

- Accountability: Public Reporting/Outcomes
- Equity: Universal Coverage/Core Benefits
- Choice: Any licensed provider
- Affordability: New financial incentives
- Information: Costs, benefits, outcomes
- Prevention over high tech cures
- Shared responsibility: Employer, individuals, government
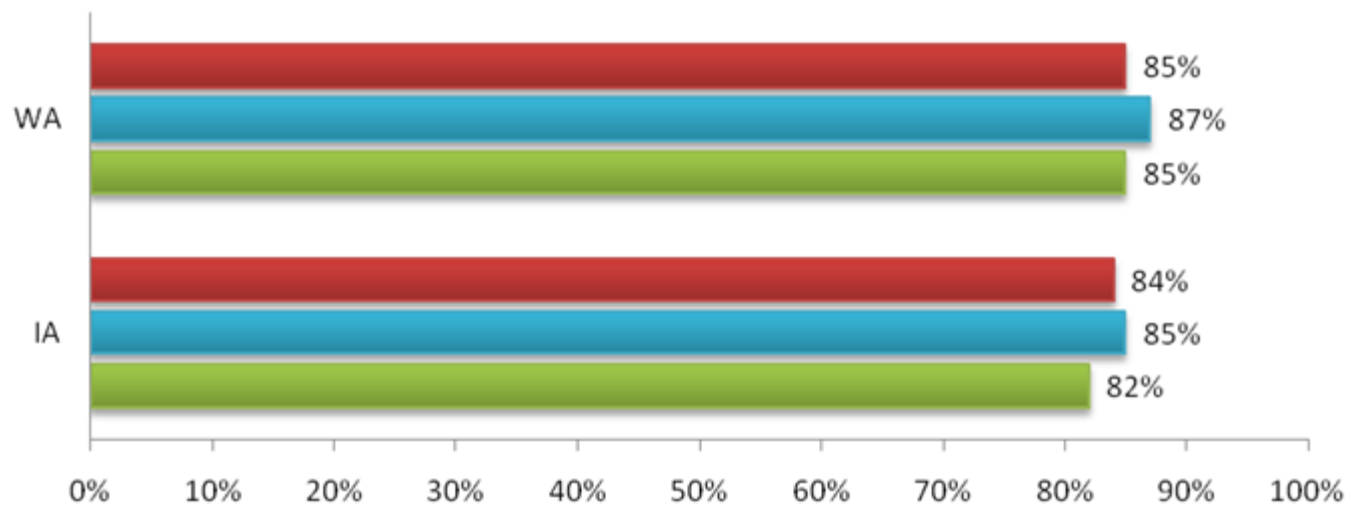- Efficiency: Enough money if well managed

Universal Coverage
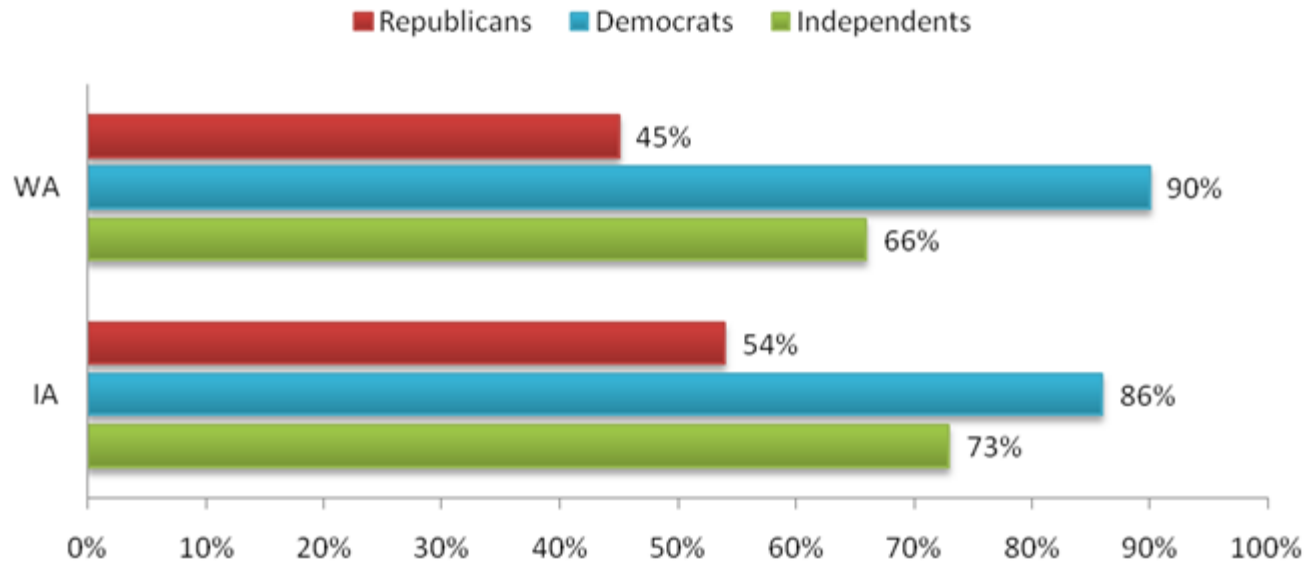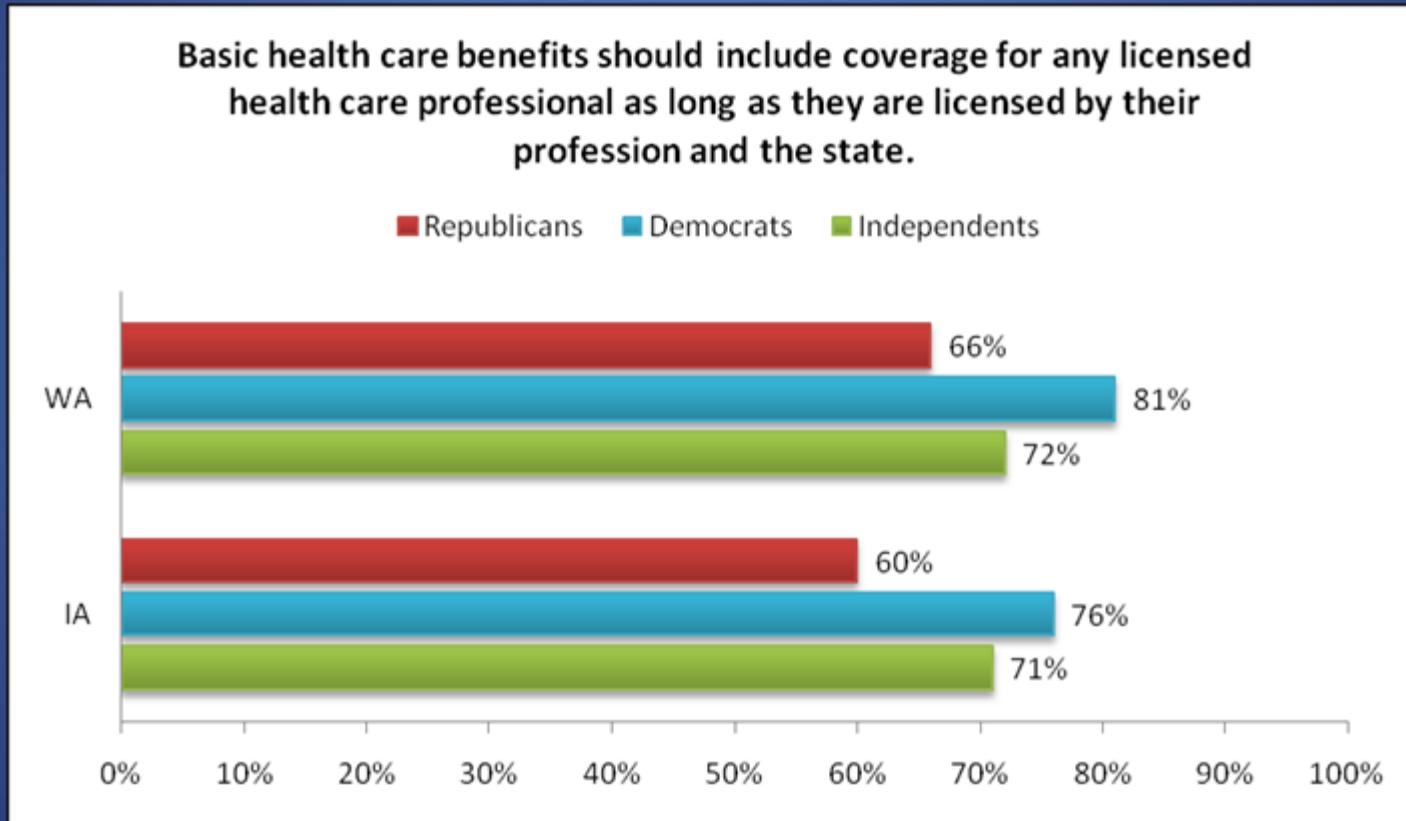
Basic set of Health Benefits
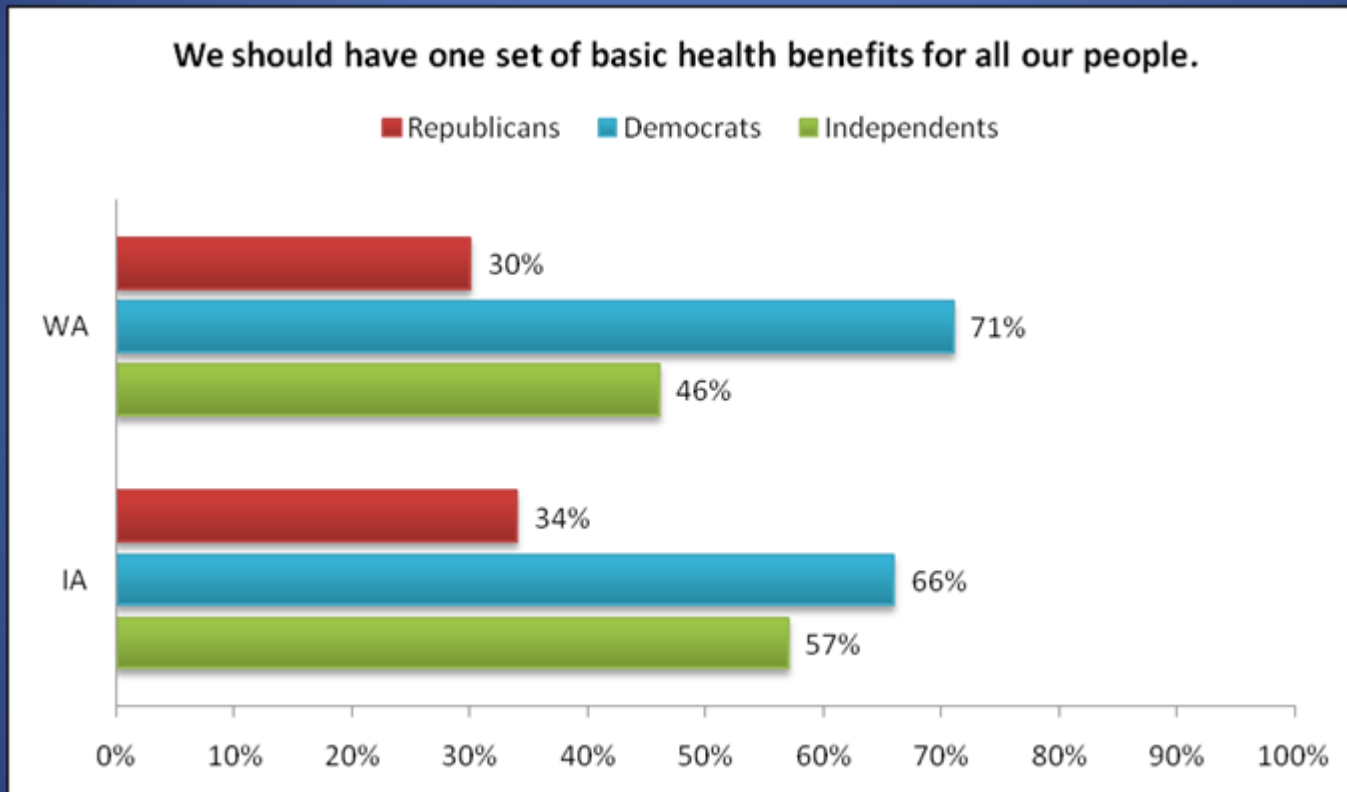
Transparency

Health care professionals should be required to give patients information about costs and benefits of treatments and services so people can make good decisions.
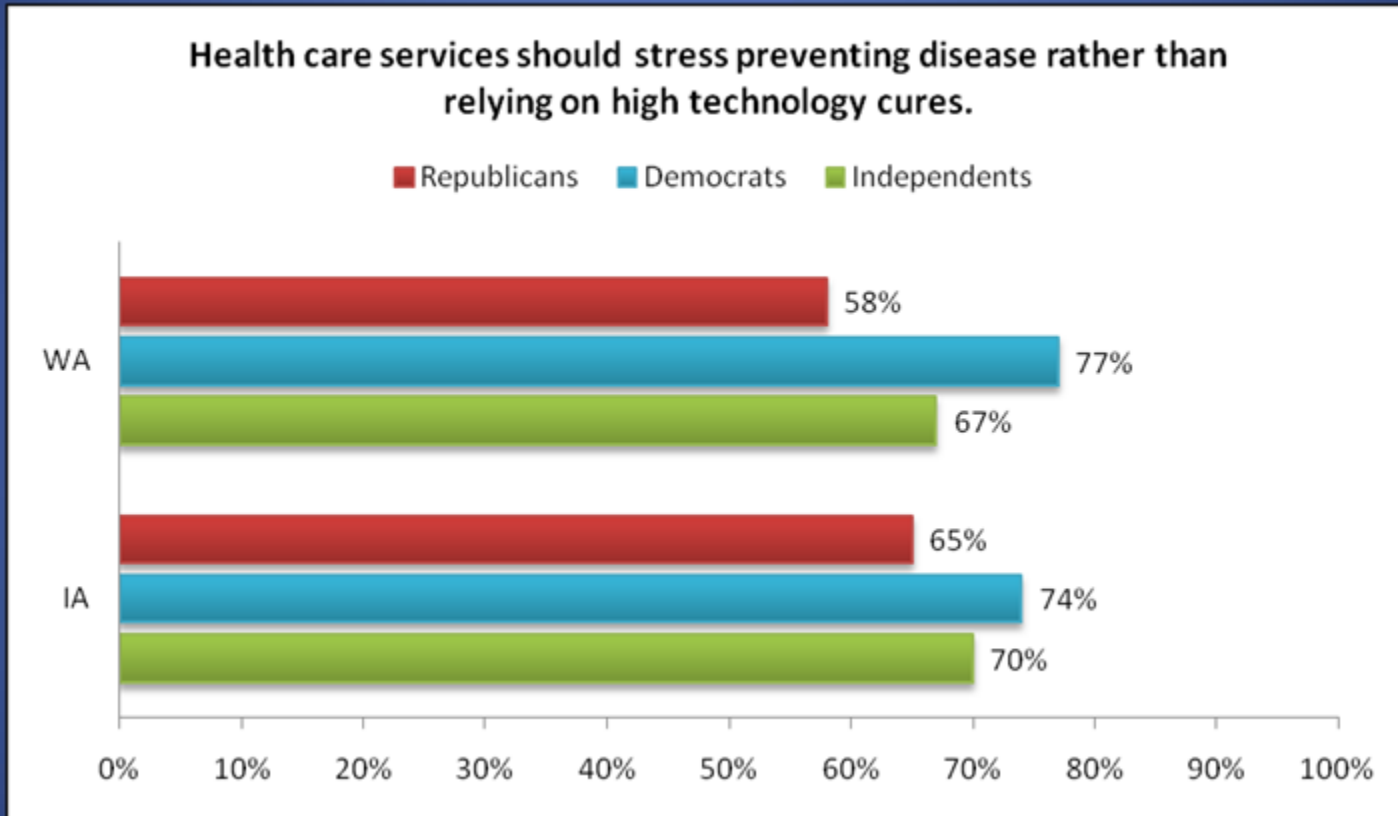
Legend: Republicans, Democrats, Independents

WA — Republicans: 85%, Democrats: 87%, Independents: 85%

IA — Republicans: 84%, Democrats: 85%, Independents: 82%

Any Licensed Health Care Professional

Basic health care benefits should include coverage for any licensed health care professional as long as they are licensed by their profession and the state.

Republicans · Democrats · Independents

WA
- 66%
- 81%
- 72%

IA
- 60%
- 76%
- 71%

Prevention

Health care services should stress preventing disease rather than relying on high technology cures.

Uniform Standards

Shared Responsibility

Health insurance should be a shared responsibility of individuals, employers and government.
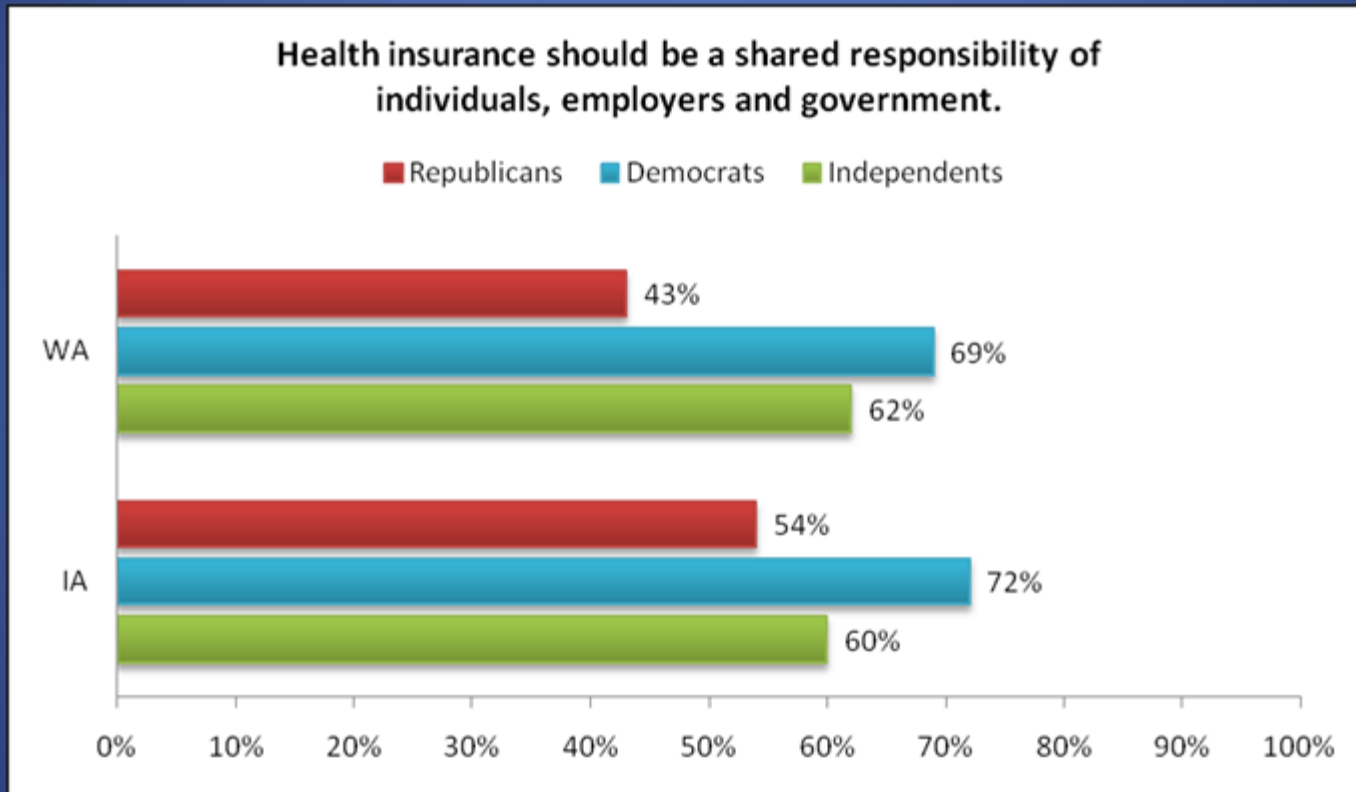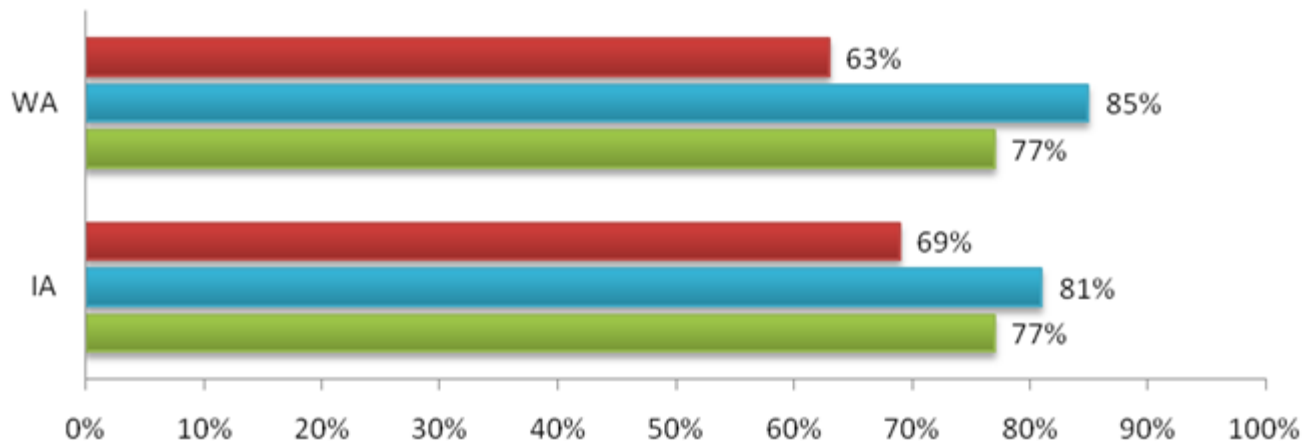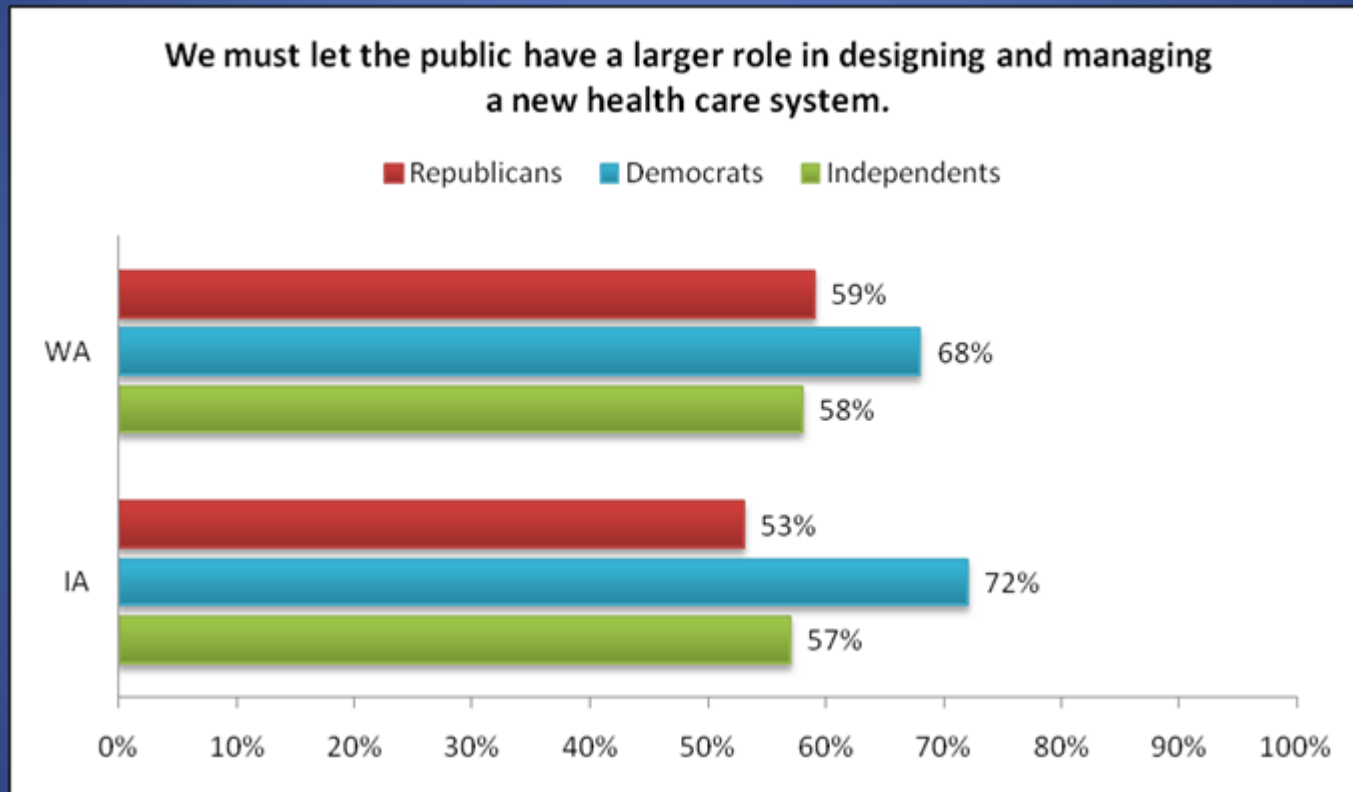
Public Reporting like Utilities

We need the same kind of public reporting and accountability in health care that we have in public companies, such as water and power companies, so we know where the money comes from, how the money is spent, and why.
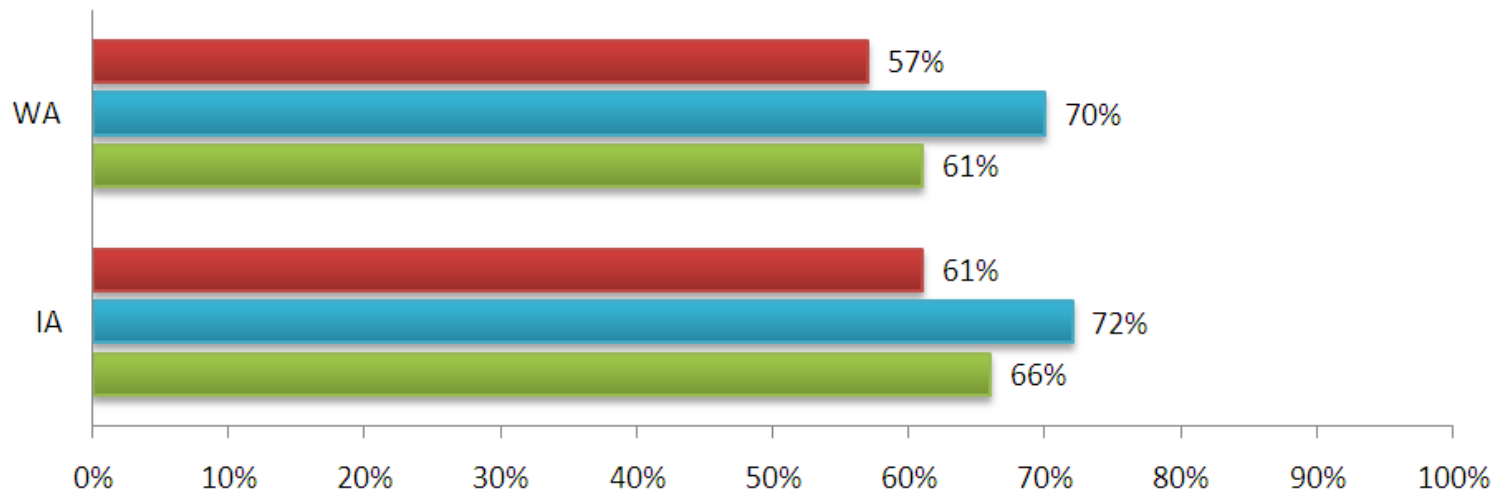
■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents

WA
- 63%
- 85%
- 77%

IA
- 69%
- 81%
- 77%

Public's Role

We must let the public have a larger role in designing and managing a new health care system.

Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents

WA
- Republicans: 59%
- Democrats: 68%
- Independents: 58%

IA
- Republicans: 53%
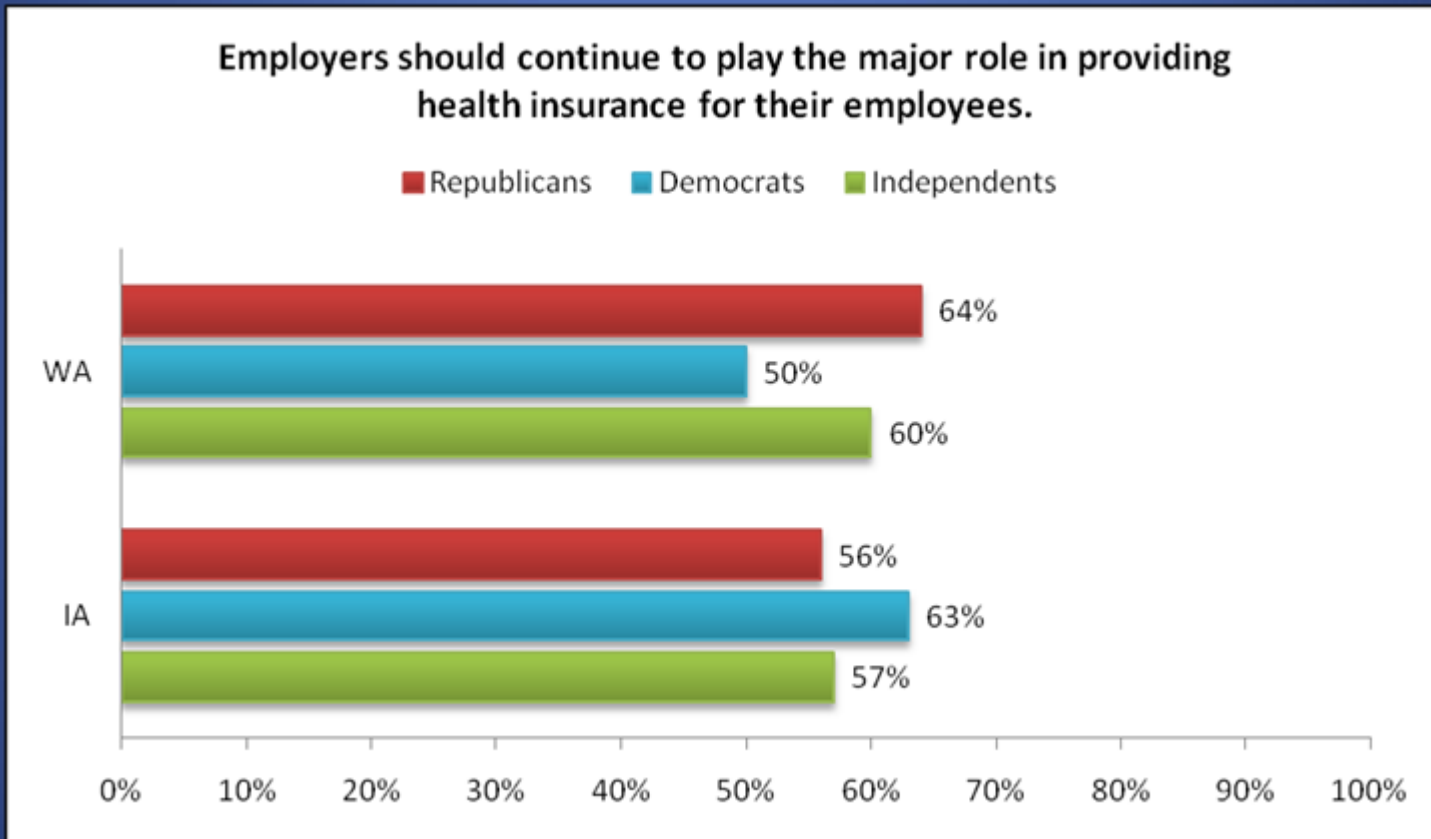- Democrats: 72%
- Independents: 57%

Who Would You Trust?

If there was an organization working with the American public to design a new national health care system that was non-profit and non-partisan—meaning it is not affiliated with any political party, any government agency or any medical or insurance group. It is made up entirely of citizens like you and experienced professionals. Would you trust this type of organization to shape a new health care system for the nation?
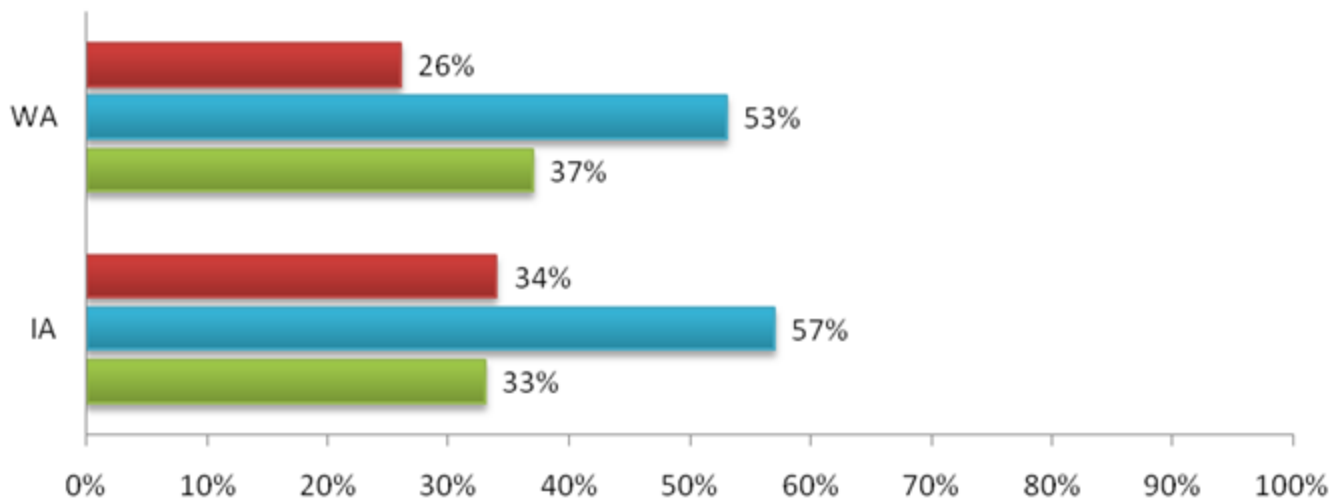
■ Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents

WA
- 57%
- 70%
- 61%

IA
- 61%
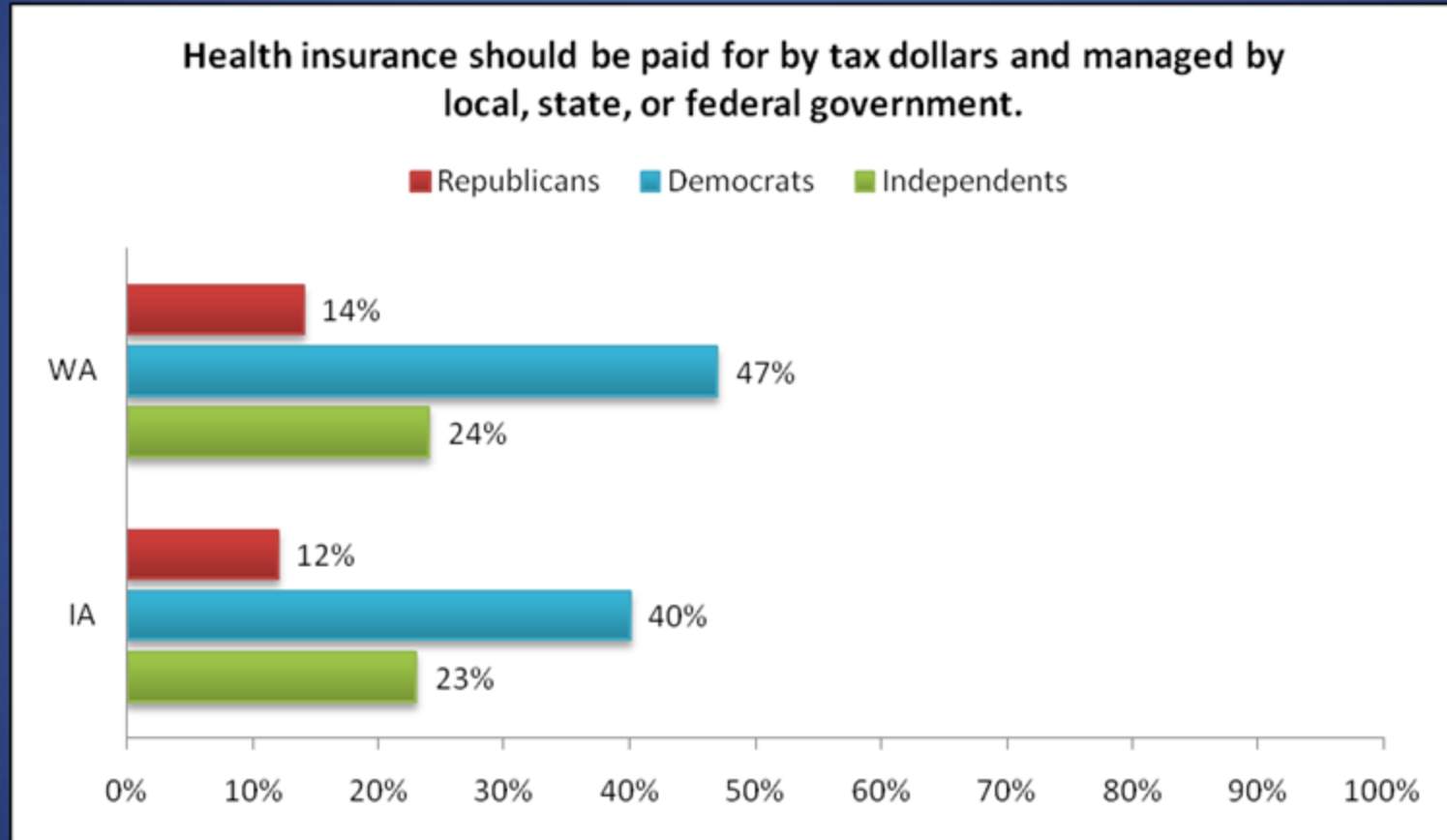- 72%
- 66%

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Employer Should Continue Major Role

Employers should continue to play the major role in providing health insurance for their employees.

One Overseeing Organization

Paid by Tax Dollars

Personal Responsibility

Health care should be a personal responsibility like automobile insurance.
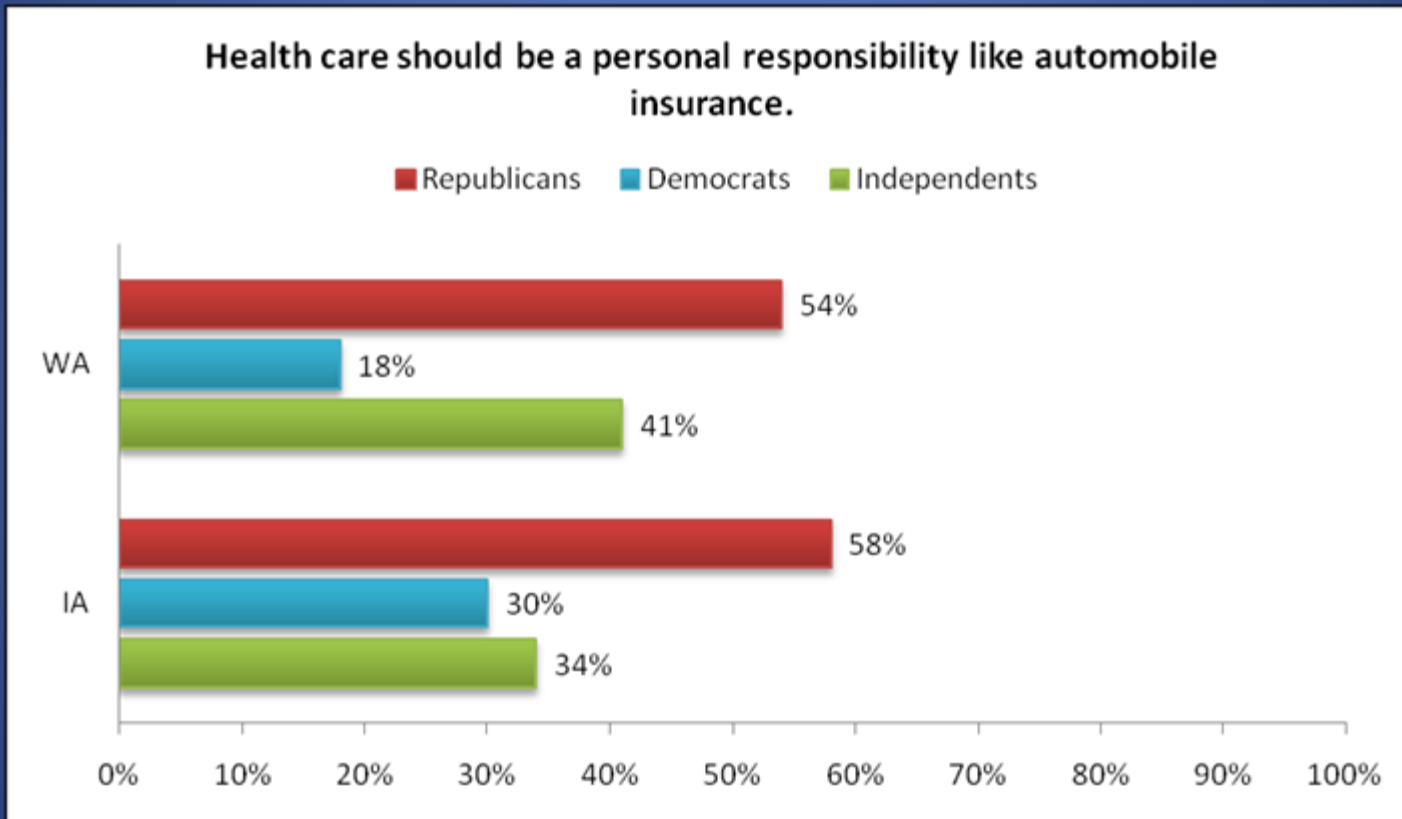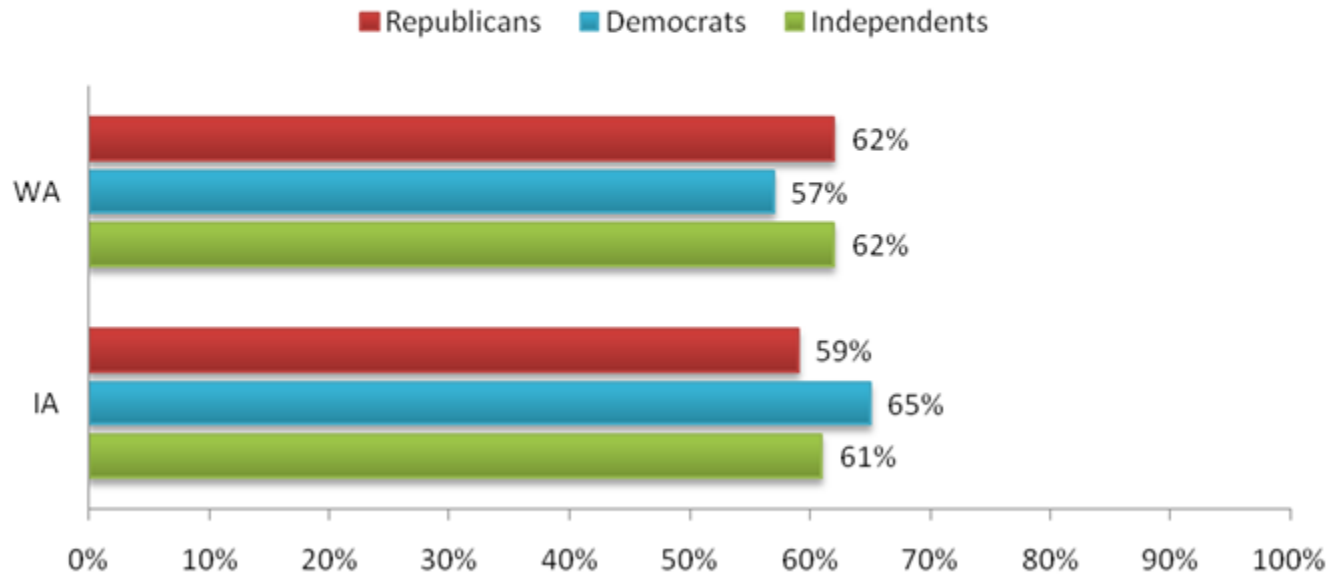
Enough Money to Cover All

There is enough money already going into the U.S. health care system to provide quality care for everyone. We just need to make sure the money is used more effectively and efficiently.

Republicans ■ Democrats ■ Independents

WA
- 62%
- 57%
- 62%

IA
- 59%
- 65%
- 61%

What Does This Mean?

- Can't leave health care to the Parties
- Current proposals as they are presently constituted will not pass
- Parties are playing to their base, not the public
- Independents are the key factor
- Without Independents none of the proposals will pass

Voters' Health Care Platform

- Enables us to use the ingenuity of the American public to solve problems
- Takes ideas from all sides of the aisle
- Builds on Common Ground and Consensus
- Uses problem solving approach outside of the parties to work on areas where there is not consensus
- Partner with other nonpartisan nonprofits

Proposed Pilot Project

- Pool all small employers and individuals
- Self-insured, labor, not required to participate
- Use existing structures for management
- May buy up and may buy HSAs
- Use FEHBP as model
  - National standards; state management; administrative and profit regulations (like Federal Reserve Board)
  - Subsidize low income premiums vs. separate public programs , except LTC/disability

Will This Path Work?

- Nothing else has since 1932

But Consider

- Revolutionary War
- Civil Rights movement
- Women's movement
- Environmental movement

They did not come from the Parties, they came from us

Ultimately it is up to you.