

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network: New poll: eight-in-ten Wisconsin voters say a candidate's position on health care is important to them

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MADISON, Wis. – Oct. 5, 2022 – A recent poll by the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) shows 8 in 10 registered voters (80%) in Wisconsin say a candidate's position on health care is important to them when deciding who to vote for, including 40% who say a candidate's position is very important to them.

That sentiment was consistent across the political spectrum with majorities of Republicans (72%), Independents (69%) and Democrats (93%) saying a candidate's position on health care is important to them when deciding who to vote for.

The poll also shows strong support among Wisconsin voters for increasing and protecting access to affordable health coverage, including 70% in favor of fully expanding BadgerCare, the state's Medicaid program.

Support for full expansion of BadgerCare comes from majorities of voters across demographics, including voters who are African American (72%), white (71%), urban (74%), suburban (69%) and rural (71%).

"Wisconsin voters clearly understand the importance of affordable health coverage and want their lawmakers to take action to expand BadgerCare," said Sara Sahli,

Wisconsin government relations director for ACS CAN. “Voters want Wisconsin to join the 38 other states who have expanded their Medicaid program and they are paying close attention this election season.”

Wisconsin is one of 12 states that has not expanded Medicaid, which would provide coverage to 91,000 residents including veterans, new moms and hardworking Wisconsin families. According to recent research by the American Cancer Society, states that have refused to increase eligibility for Medicaid have [worse survival rates](#) for most cancers in both early and late stages. States that have expanded Medicaid, on the other hand, have [far better cancer survival rates and decreased cancer disparities](#).

“In this state, we take care of each other. With 37,000 Wisconsinites receiving a cancer diagnosis this year, it’s no wonder a majority of us support measures that ensure our access to affordable and quality health care,” said Linda DeGarmo, an ACS CAN volunteer in Chaseburg. “These are our friends, neighbors and loved ones.”

ACS CAN is strictly nonpartisan and does not endorse, oppose, or contribute to any candidate or political party. For more information or to view candidates’ responses to the ACS CAN questionnaire, visit cancervotes.org.

The poll of 600 Registered Wisconsin voters was conducted on behalf of ACS CAN by Public Opinion Strategies and Hart Research Associates September 11-15, 2022, and has a margin of error of +4.00 percentage points. A copy of the polling memo can be found here: https://www.fightcancer.org/sites/default/files/national_documents/acs-can-wisconsin-cancer-votes-press-memo.pdf