



To: Interested Parties

From: Bully Pulpit International, UpONE Insights

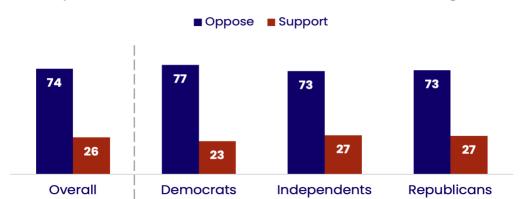
Re: Medicare Advantage

Date: July 31, 2024

A supermajority of seniors oppose cuts to Medicare Advantage — and will factor into their vote in November

A bipartisan-led poll of likely voters aged 60 and older finds that **74% of seniors oppose reducing funding for Medicare Advantage**. Protecting Medicare is rated as seniors' top issue in this election with fully 94% saying it is very or extremely important. Opposition to cuts crosses party lines, is durable, and is found among the very voters who are critical in 2024.

Opposition to cuts to Medicare Advantage crosses party lines, with 77% of Democrats, 73% of Independents, and 73% of Republicans opposing cuts to Medicare Advantage.



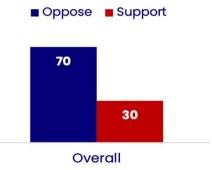
Likely voters over 60: Views toward cuts to Medicare Advantage

Opposition to cuts to Medicare Advantage is durable. In the abstract, 74% oppose cuts – even given two sides of an argument, a 70%-majority of voters over 60 still oppose cuts.

Opposition to cuts withstands opponents' attacks

Some say: We need to be smarter about our health spending. Cuts to Medicare Advantage will limit profits for insurance companies and force these companies to be more efficient with American taxpayer dollars.

Others say: Millions of American seniors choose Medicare Advantage because it provides high-quality, affordable health care. Cuts to Medicare Advantage could result in higher premiums, fewer benefits, and fewer plan choices for seniors.



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Opposition to cuts is found among key 2024 voting groups. Among senior voters who are undecided or not yet sure of their 2024 Congressional vote, fully 74% oppose reductions in Medicare Advantage funding; among voters in Senate battleground states¹ that will decide the makeup of the Senate, 73% oppose; and among those in competitive House districts², fully 75% oppose cuts to Medicare Advantage.

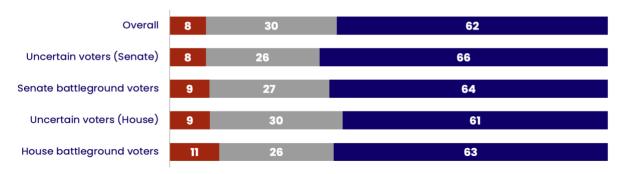
Opposition to cuts goes beyond seniors who are currently covered by Medicare Advantage: over two-thirds of those not covered by Medicare Advantage, 68%, oppose reductions in funding for the program.

Vote Impact

Seniors oppose cuts to Medicare Advantage — and most report they will vote on it. Fully 62% of likely voters over 60 say they would be *more likely* to vote for a candidate who commits to zero cuts to Medicare Advantage — including majorities of Democrats, Independents, and Republicans, majorities of voters who are still making up their minds in Senate races and House races, and 64% and 63% percent of Senate and House battleground voters.

Effect on vote choice if candidate committed to zero cuts to Medicare Advantage

 $\textbf{Less likely to vote for candidate} \ / \ \textbf{No difference} \ / \ \textbf{More likely to vote for candidate}$



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¹ Battleground Senate states: AZ, MI, MT, NV, OH, PA, WI

² Battleground House districts: AK-00, AZ-01, AZ-06, CA-13, CA-22, CA-27, CA-41, CA-45, CA-47, CO-03, CO-08, CT-05, IA-03, IL-17, IN-01, ME-02, MI-07, MI-08, MI-10, MN-02, NC-01, NE-02, NJ-07, NM-02, NV-03, NY-04, NY-17, NY-18, NY-19, NY-22, OH-09, OH-13, OR-05, OR-06, PA-07, PA-08, PA-10, PA-17, TX-28, TX-34, VA-02, VA-07, WA-03, WI-03





Drivers of Opposition to Medicare Advantage Cuts

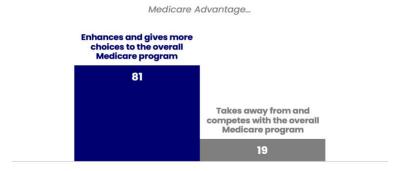
Overall, four key factors drive seniors' opposition to cuts to Medicare Advantage:

First: Seniors value Medicare Advantage's affordability. Fully 84% say the program's low monthly premiums are extremely or very important to them, and 82% say limits on out-of-pocket costs are important. Among users of Medicare Advantage, these figures are even higher, with 90% and 87% respectively saying these affordability measures are important.

Second: Seniors see Medicare Advantage as a means to increase accessibility and choice in health care coverage. The vast majority, 80%, see high value in "hospital, outpatient doctor visits, and prescription drugs all included in one monthly premium," and three-quarters see access to preferred doctors and additional benefits, such as vision and dental, as important.

Third: the impact of Medicare Advantage on marginalized communities drives support. When senior voters learn that "cutting Medicare Advantage disproportionately hurts low-income seniors and minorities, who are more likely to choose Medicare Advantage," voters' opposition to cuts grows to 80%. This includes stronger opposition from Republicans (76%, 3 points higher than initially), Independents (81%, 8 points higher), and Democrats (83%, 6 points higher).

And fourth: seniors see Medicare Advantage as an important complement to Medicare. By an 81-19% margin, seniors believe that Medicare Advantage enhances the Medicare program.



Methodology

Bully Pulpit International, together with UpONE Insights, surveyed a representative sample of 1,498 likely 2024 voters aged 60+ from July 9-16, 2024 (before President Biden withdrew his candidacy). Interviews were conducted online using a mix of text-to-web and panel-based samples. The margin of error on a truly random sample of 1,498 is +/- 2.5 percentage points and is higher among subgroups.