

AMERICAN VIEWPOINT®

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To: Interested Parties
From: Randall Gutermuth
Re: Key Findings from Recent Statewide Survey
Date: January 15, 2021

The following outlines the key findings from a statewide survey of n=800 Missouri voters commissioned by the Missouri Hospital Association. Interviews were conducted January 4-6, 2021. The margin of error for the full sample is +/- 3.5% at the 95% confidence level and the margin of error among sub-groups is greater. Approximately 50% of interviews were conducted with a cell phone sample of those who can't be reached on a landline.

Missouri voters overwhelmingly favor the legislature implementing the expansion of Medicaid that voters approved last August.

- Nearly two-thirds of voters (65%) favor implementing the expansion of Medicaid, with only 26% opposing it.
- Even 18% of those who voted No on Amendment 2 favor the legislature implementing it.
- The key swing voting bloc of Independents favor the expansion 66%-25%.
- Republicans are more split on the issue (45%-44%), but clearly this will not be a defining vote for Republican legislators among their base.

There is a high level of agreement with the following proponent statements regarding implementing the expansion.

	Total Agree - Disagree
With Missouri voters having passed Medicaid expansion in August and the state's Constitution requiring the legislature to implement this change by July 1st, regardless of their personal opinion, it is each legislator's sworn duty to listen to the will of voters and implement the expansion.	88% - 8%
The COVID pandemic reminded us how critical access to health care in our rural communities is, how important health care jobs are for rural Missouri, and how important it is to support our rural hospitals. Expanding Medicaid as passed by voters will help rural hospitals stay open so people don't have to drive two hours to an emergency room or a specialist. It is important for the legislature to listen to the will of voters and implement the expansion.	86% - 12%
Missourians voted to expand Medicaid because it will ensure health care coverage for the up to 230,000 residents who earn less than \$18,000 a year for a household of one, including many working women and veterans, and it is important for the legislature to listen to the will of voters and implement the expansion and make sure hardworking Missourians have access to quality health care.	81% - 15%

As a result of COVID, Missourians understand how vital our healthcare system is and voted to expand Medicaid because it will protect thousands of health care jobs, help keep rural hospitals open, boost our economy and deliver health care to hard-working Missouri families, which is why they voted to expand Medicaid. It is important for the legislature to listen to the will of voters and implement the expansion.	78% - 19%
The legislature's constitutional power to create state budgets overrides the new constitutional requirement for Medicaid expansion to begin July 1, 2021.	45% - 38%

- Note that the opponent statement has a significantly lower level of agreement.

After hearing the statements, support for implementing the expansion increases.

- After hearing the statements, 70% of voters favor the legislature implementing the expansion of Medicaid, with only 23% opposing it.
- This includes a majority of Republicans favoring implementing the expansion by a 56%-38% margin.

This data indicates that public opinion favors the legislature implementing the will of the voters and expanding Medicaid during the legislative session.