
THE TARRANCE GROUP

MEMORANDUM

TO: Americans For A Balanced Budget
FROM: B.J. Martino
DATE: May 20, 2025
RE: Summary Findings from Survey Research Among Voters on Medicaid and SNAP

The Tarrance Group is pleased to present Americans For A Balanced Budget with findings from a national survey of voters, as well as a survey of voters in Pennsylvania's First Congressional District, and a survey of Republican primary voters in Missouri's Eighth Congressional District.

The national survey was conducted via an online panel from April 22-24th, 2025, among n=1,000 voters across the country (+/- 3.1% margin of error), with an oversample of n=300 voters in households with annual income under \$60,000 a year. The oversample was weighted down.

The survey of all voters in Pennsylvania CD 1 and among Republicans in Missouri CD 8 were conducted via live-caller and text-to-web interviews from May 6-8, 2025, among N=300 respondents in each district (+/- 5.8% margin of error).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- American voters nationally are broadly supportive of both the Medicaid and SNAP programs, with a large majority calling on Congress to keep or increase spending on these programs. Voters from the suburban 1st District of Pennsylvania to the rural Republican voters in the 8th District of Missouri agree.
- There is the fundamental belief that these programs are a critical safety net, especially for low-income children as well as military and veterans' families.
- Voters in both districts surveyed agree that by cutting waste, fraud and abuse we can actually provide more help to Americans that need it.
- Voters in both districts also agree that work requirements should take a back seat to eliminating waste, fraud and abuse in the system, as well as that full time caretakers, like single mothers of young children and family caretakers, should not lose benefits due to work requirements.
- Republican voters are especially more attuned to the notion of focusing on waste, fraud and abuse in both cases above. They also largely believe that providing these health and food benefits to low-income Americans is an important part of President Trump's effort in Making America Healthy Again.

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Broad Support For Medicaid And SNAP

Nationally, around four in five voters support their state's Medicaid program and support SNAP. Support remains high among Republican primary voters in Missouri's 8th district, and all voters in Pennsylvania's 1st district.

As you may already know, Medicaid is a health insurance program used by many Americans, which uses a combination of state and federal funds to provide discounted health insurance for children and for poor people. Generally speaking: Do you support or oppose the Medicaid program in your state [also known as MO HealthNet, Pennsylvania Medical Assistance or MA, or other state name provided if applicable]?

Thinking about SNAP, the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as the Food Stamp program, which helps low-income people in the country afford food. Generally speaking: Do you support or oppose SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program?

Medicaid And SNAP Support

		Support Medicaid	Support SNAP
National	All Voters	78%	82%
	Republicans	71%	73%
	Trump Voters	70%	73%
PACD1	All Voters	86%	85%
	Republicans	84%	77%
	Trump Voters	80%	77%
MOCD8	All GOP	82%	74%
Republican	"Trump" GOP	78%	70%
Primary	Very Conservative	77%	66%

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Spending On Medicaid And SNAP

Nationally, 82% of voters support keeping or increasing spending on Medicaid as well as SNAP, including about seven-in-ten Republican primary voters in Missouri's 8th District, and nearly eight-in-ten in Pennsylvania's 1st District.

*As you may know, Congress is working on the federal budget and national spending.
Based on what you know:*

Do you want Congress to increase or decrease spending on Medicaid, or keep it where it is?

Do you want Congress to increase or decrease spending on SNAP, or keep it where it is?

Medicaid And SNAP Spending- Total Keep+ Spending

		Keep/Increase Spending on Medicaid	Keep/Increase Spending on SNAP
National	All Voters	82%	82%
	Republicans	71%	72%
	Trump Voters	71%	71%
PACD 1	All Voters	79%	77%
	Republicans	67%	60%
	Trump Voters	66%	60%
MOCD 8	All GOP	70%	69%
Republican	"Trump" GOP	59%	65%
Primary	Very Conservative	67%	66%

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Voter Beliefs About Medicaid And SNAP

Given several statements, voters widely share some fundamental beliefs about the importance of Medicaid and SNAP. Belief that these programs are a critical safety net, especially for children and our military families, registers at or above 85% nationally, in the 1st District of Pennsylvania, as well as among Republicans in the 8th District of Missouri.

Medicaid and SNAP provide a critical safety net for the truly vulnerable groups in our society, including millions of children in low-income families.

A number of our nation's active-duty military and veterans, including those disabled or suffering from PTSD, rely on Medicaid and SNAP to get some of the help they need. We must protect the benefits for those who serve and their families.

Children with health insurance and enough to eat are more likely to avoid hospitalization, do better in school, and have better physical, mental and economic well-being.

Statements Belief About Medicaid And SNAP

		Believe "...critical safety net..."	Believe "...military and vets..."	Believe "Children... do better..."
National	All Voters	87%	88%	91%
	Republicans	79%	83%	86%
	Trump Voters	79%	83%	85%
PACD1	All Voters	87%	93%	94%
	Republicans	78%	91%	90%
	Trump Voters	77%	90%	89%
MOCD8	All GOP	85%	86%	91%
Republican	"Trump" GOP	88%	87%	87%
Primary	Very Conservative	84%	86%	91%

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Making America Healthy Again

Among voters nationally as well as Republicans in Missouri's 8th district, more than eight-in-ten Republicans believe that continuing to provide basic health insurance and nutritious food to low-income Americans is an important part of Making America Healthy Again. Voters in the Pennsylvania 1st district survey were not asked this question.

Even among the most conservative and core group of self-identifying "Trump Republicans," this idea registers over 80% belief.

With President Trump's focus on Making America Healthy Again (MAHA), continuing to provide basic health insurance and nutritious food to low-income Americans is an important part of that.

Statement Belief On MAHA

		Believe - Important Part of MAHA
National	All Voters	73%
	Republicans	84%
	Trump Voters	85%
MO CD 8	All GOP	85%
Republican	"Trump" GOP	87%
Primary	Very Conservative	84%

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Views On Cutting Waste, Fraud And Abuse In The Programs, To Provide More Help

Seventy percent (70%) of voters in Pennsylvania's 1st District and over 90% of Republican primary voters in Missouri's 8th District agree that by cutting waste, fraud and abuse from Medicaid and SNAP, we can provide more help to Americans who need it. Voters in the national survey were not asked this question.

Some people say that by cutting waste, fraud and abuse from the Medicaid and SNAP programs, we can redirect those cost savings to actually provide more help to Americans who really need it.

Do you agree or disagree that if we cut waste, fraud and abuse from the Medicaid and SNAP programs, we can redirect those cost savings to actually provide more help to Americans who really need it?

Cut Waste, Fraud And Abuse To Help More Americans

		Agree - "...cut waste, fraud and abuse... provide more help..."
PACD1	All Voters	70%
	Republicans	91%
	Trump Voters	93%
MOCD8	All GOP	93%
Republican	"Trump" GOP	94%
Primary	Very Conservative	95%

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Views On Work Requirements

Respondents in the two Congressional districts were also asked about proposed work requirements for Medicaid and SNAP. In both places, majorities agreed that the federal government should focus on getting rid of waste, fraud and abuse in Medicaid and SNAP instead of adding work requirements, and that it would be wrong for single moms and caretakers to lose benefits if work requirements are increased and they can't find care for their family.

The Federal Government should focus on getting rid of waste, fraud and abuse in the Medicaid and SNAP systems, instead of adding burdensome work requirements to families that need help the most.

Many low-income single Moms taking care of young children at home depend on Medicaid and SNAP, and others are full-time caretakers for elderly or disabled relatives. It is wrong that they would lose benefits if work requirements are increased and they cannot find or afford care for their family.

Statements Agree Concerning Adding Work Requirements

		Agree "..focus on... waste, fraud and abuse..."	Agree "...Moms [and]...full- time caretakers..."
PACD1	All Voters	61%	69%
	Republicans	66%	55%
	Trump Voters	64%	47%
MOCD8	All GOP	62%	59%
Republican	"Trump" GOP	61%	54%
Primary	Very Conservative	57%	51%

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