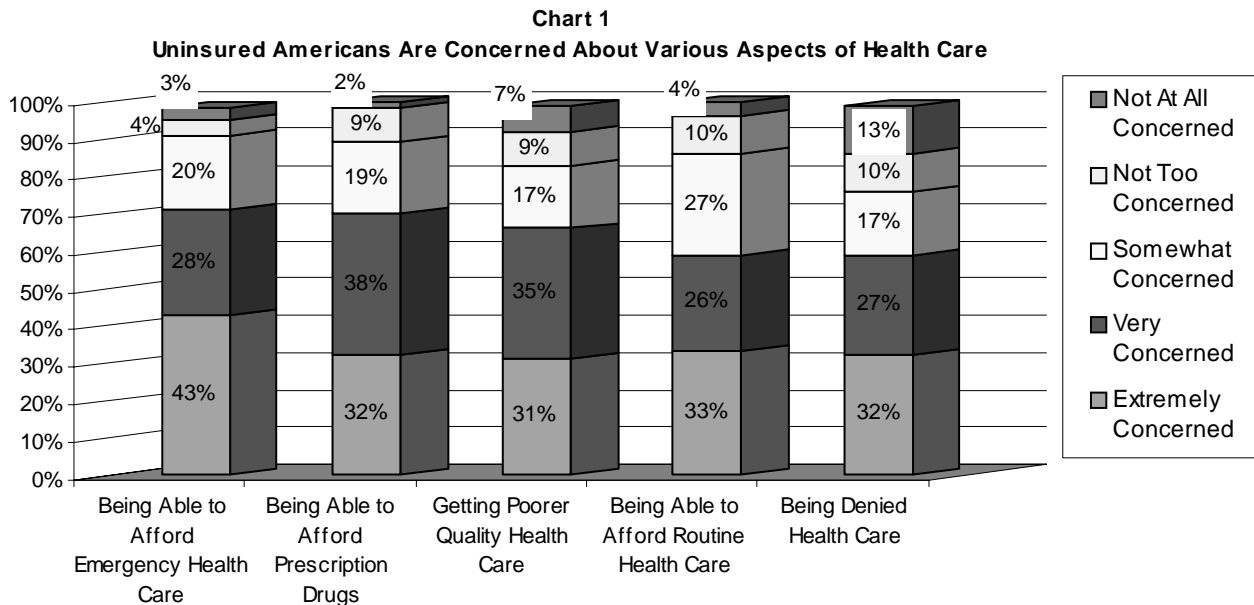


Health Insurance: Value of Coverage and Willingness to Pay

Uninsured Concerned About Health Care

Americans without health insurance coverage are concerned about all aspects of affording and accessing health care.

- Seventy-two percent of the uninsured were extremely or very concerned about being able to afford emergency health care; 70 percent were extremely or very concerned about being able to afford prescription drugs; and 66 percent were concerned about getting poorer quality health care (chart 1).



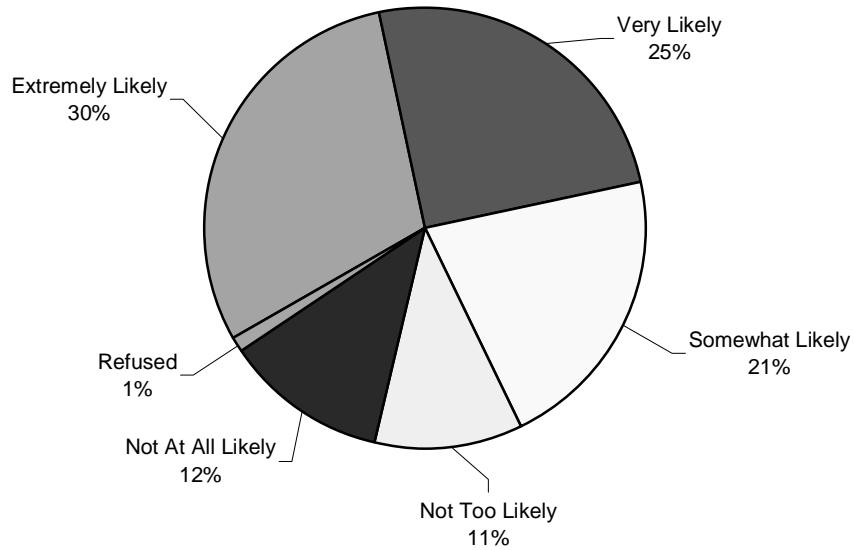
- Half (50 percent) of those without health insurance coverage said that medical bills are a source of financial stress.
- Forty-four percent of the uninsured reported that when health care was needed, they have delayed getting care, decided not to get care, or both.

Insured Americans Likely to Purchase Coverage if They Lose Employment-Based Benefits

Although most Americans with employment-based health benefits believe their employers will continue to offer coverage, a majority are likely to purchase their own insurance if their employer does drop coverage (chart 2).

- Only 10 percent of those with employment-based coverage were not too or not at all confident that their employer would continue to offer health insurance.
- The majority (54 percent) of those with employment-based health benefits said they are extremely or very likely to purchase insurance on their own if their employer drops it.
- Twenty-three percent of those with coverage were not too or not at all likely to purchase insurance on their own if their employer dropped coverage. (If, in fact, this proportion of the 163 million with employment-based health coverage dropped it, the number of uninsured would increase from 39 million to 76 million.)
- Of those who are not likely to purchase coverage, 71 percent indicated that cost is the major factor.

Chart 2
Likelihood of Purchasing Insurance if Employer Drops Coverage



Insured Willing to Pay More for Coverage Than Uninsured

The privately insured are willing to pay an amount for health insurance that is closer to the actual cost of coverage than are those who are currently without coverage (table 1). They value the coverage they have and have some sense of what it costs.

- Thirty-four percent of those with employment-based health coverage would pay \$200 or more per month for individually purchased coverage if they lost their current coverage. Another 34 percent would pay between \$100 and \$200 per month.
- Only 10 percent of the uninsured would pay \$200 or more per month for health insurance. The majority of the uninsured (56 percent) would pay between \$50 and \$150 per month for health insurance. Another 14 percent would pay between \$150 and \$199 per month.

| | Uninsured | With Employment-Based Coverage |
|----------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Nothing | 3% | 2% |
| \$1 to \$24 | 2 | 1 |
| \$25 to \$49 | 9 | 8 |
| \$50 to \$99 | 29 | 11 |
| \$100 to \$149 | 27 | 16 |
| \$150 to \$199 | 14 | 18 |
| \$200 or more | 10 | 34 |
| Don't Know | 5 | 11 |

Source: 2001 Health Confidence Survey.