THE HENRY J. KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION

THE KAISER-HARVARD PROGRAM ON
THE PUBLIC AND HEALTH/SOCIAL POLICY

Survey of Americans on Health Policy

Questionnaire and National Toplines
July 30, 1996

A JOINT PROGRAM OF THE HENRY J. KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION AND HARVARD UNIVERSITY
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KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION/
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON SURVEY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES
HEALTH POLICY SURVEY

FINAL TOPLINE
July 30, 1996

METHODOLOGY: The Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA survey was a national random sample conducted by telephone with 1,011 adults between June 20 and July 9, 1996. The margin of error is plus or minus 3 percent.

1. Looking ahead to the presidential election in November, what issue will be MOST important to you in deciding who to vote for? **(RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE FOR UP TO TWO MENTIONS. PROBE ONCE, IF NECESSARY, FOR A 2ND MENTION:** Is there another issue that will be almost as important to you?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
14%	13%	17%	14%	Economy/Jobs
11	17	9	10	Candidate characteristics
10	6	15	9	Health care (excluding Medicare)
8	10	7	7	Deficit/Government spending
8	10	6	8	Taxes
6	8	5	6	Abortion
5	3	6	6	Crime/Guns/Violence
5	2	6	3	Medicare
4	4	6	4	Education
4	6	3	4	Welfare
4	2	5	5	Social Security
4	5	4	4	Other issues
6	5	7	5	None
32	26	29	36	Don't know/Don't plan to vote

Note: Adds to more than 100% due to multiple responses.

2. Now thinking ONLY about issues relating to HEALTH CARE (EXCLUDING MEDICARE), what specific issue, if any, will be of MOST concern to you in deciding who to vote for? **(RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE FOR UP TO TWO MENTIONS. PROBE ONCE, IF NECESSARY, FOR AN ADDITIONAL MENTION:** Is there any other specific health care problem that will matter almost as much in your voting decision?

TOTAL MENTIONS OF THOSE SAYING "HEALTH CARE IN Q1"

Total	Of Those Saying "Health Care" in Q1	
27%	25%	Medicare
15	18	Health care cost/Health insurance cost
14	17	Health care availability/Access/Universal coverage
2	7	Health care for children
4	6	Government interference in choosing health care coverage (doctors)
12	20	Other specific issues
3	3	Health care in general
8	4	None
26	17	Don't know/Don't plan to vote

3. Do you think the health care system in this country is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
12%	15%	9%	15%	Better
49	42	54	50	Worse
34	39	33	31	Same
4	3	4	3	Don't know
100				

4. Now, on another subject... I'm going to read you a list of concerns some people have. As I read each one, please tell me how much, if at all, it concerns you. (First/next), how concerned are you about... **(INSERT--READ AND ROTATE) :** very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?

	Very Concerned	Some-What Concerned	Not Too Concerned	Not At All Concerned	DK/ Refused	
a. Being unable to save enough money to put a child through college	48%	18%	10%	22%	2%	=100
b. Losing your job or taking a cut in pay	39	16	15	28	2	=100
c. Being unable to afford mental health care if you or a family member needs help	43	28	16	13	*	=100
d. Becoming a victim of crime	41	32	19	7	1	=100
e. Your taxes getting too high	65	25	7	2	1	=100
f. Being unable to afford necessary health care when a family member gets sick	61	18	13	8	*	=100
g. Life for our children not being better than it has been for us	71	20	5	3	1	=100

		Not Very Concerned	Some-What Concerned	Not Too Concerned	At All Concerned	DK/ Refused	
h.	Being unable to take care of your parents, grandparents, or spouse if they need long-term care	59	21	7	10	3	=100
I.	You or your spouse losing your health insurance coverage	53	16	15	13	3	=100
j.	Government interfering too much in your life	46	29	18	6	1	=100
k.	Being unable to get adequate health insurance if you change jobs	56	15	11	12	6	=100
l.	Your family's income not keeping up with the cost of living	58	25	11	5	1	=100

5. Next, I'm going to read you some words and phrases and ask you to describe your overall feelings toward each one. If I name something you're not familiar with, please say so. (First,) how would describe your overall feelings toward ... **(INSERT--READ AND ROTATE) :** very positive, somewhat positive, neutral, somewhat negative, or very negative? Next, how about...

		Very Positive	Somewhat Positive	Neutral	Somewhat Negative	Very Negative	Not Familiar With Term	DK/ Refused	
a.	Health care reform	26%	21%	21%	20%	8%	2%	2%	=100
b.	Medicaid	20	22	26	16	9	5	2	=100
c.	Welfare	11	13	17	32	25	0	2	=100
d.	A balanced budget for the federal government	30	17	19	16	14	1	3	=100
e.	Medicare	29	21	26	15	7	1	1	=100
f.	Managed care	8	16	26	14	7	25	4	=100
g.	Medical savings account	14	17	20	6	6	35	2	=100
h.	For-profit health care	8	16	26	15	8	24	3	=100
i.	Universal health care coverage	18	24	19	14	7	16	2	=100
j.	Health Maintenance Organization or H-M-O	12	25	23	19	9	9	3	=100

6. You said that the following issues... **(READ ITEMS RATED AS MOST IMPORTANT ABOVE)** should be among the most important health care issues for the next President and Congress to address. Which ONE of these do you think should be most important?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
10%	11%	9%	10%	Health care costs
5	3	7	6	Long-term care for elderly people
3	2	4	3	Prescription drugs for the elderly under Medicare
9	6	12	9	Americans losing their health insurance
9	5	13	8	Health insurance for those who can't afford it
4	3	5	4	Medicare
2	1	2	1	Medicaid
12	11	12	12	Health care for children
17	26	10	16	Waste, fraud, and abuse in government health care programs
1	1	2	1	Malpractice costs
1	1	1	1	Mental health benefits in insurance policies
25	29	22	26	No item rated most important
2	1	1	3	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused
100	100	100	100	

7. How familiar are you with the term "MANAGED CARE PLAN?" Do you know what this term means OR have you heard of it, but are not sure what it means, OR have you never heard the term "managed care plan" before this interview?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
27%	32%	23%	26%	Know what it means
36	33	38	39	Heard of, not sure what it means
37	35	39	35	Never heard of a managed care plan
0	0	0	0	Refused

8. If in the future you and your family received your health care through a managed care plan, do you think that would be a good thing, a bad thing, or would not make much difference either way?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
11%	8%	12%	9%	Good thing
19	21	17	20	Bad thing
20	25	17	21	Not much difference
37	35	39	36	Never heard of managed care plan
13	11	15	14	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

Of Those Who Have Heard of Managed Care	
17%	Good thing
30	Bad thing
32	Not much difference
21	Don't know
*	Refused

9. What is the MAIN reason you feel this way? Is it your own experience with a managed care plan; what you've learned from friends and family; or what you've seen, heard, or read on television, in newspapers or other media?

BASED ON THOSE WHO THINK MANAGED CARE WOULD BE A BAD THING

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
33%	23%	34%	42%	Own experience
25	28	17	27	From friends and family
36	43	39	28	TV, newspapers and other media
5	4	9	3	Other (SPECIFY)
1	2	1	*	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

(n=211)

10. I'm going to read you five different approaches to health care the next President might take. After I read you all five, tell me which ONE you would most like to see taken by whoever is elected President next November. The first one is . . . **(READ LIST, DO NOT ROTATE)**

a. A comprehensive health reform plan similar to the one President Clinton introduced a few years ago
OR...
b. A new bill that would guarantee health insurance coverage for all Americans, and would require less government intervention than the earlier Clinton plan
OR...
c. A new bill that would be the first step in addressing the problems of the health care system and guarantee health insurance for some -- but not all -- Americans
OR...
d. A new bill that would make private insurance more available and affordable through insurance reforms without any government guarantees
OR...
e. Do nothing on health care?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
9%	5%	15%	6%	Option A - (should remain as it is today)
44	30	55	45	Option B - (Clinton Plan)
11	14	11	9	Option C - (Coverage for all with less government)
31	48	16	35	Option D - (Coverage for some, but not all)
2	2	2	2	Option E - (Do nothing)
1	*	*	2	Other (VOL.)
2	1	4	1	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

11. Which ONE of the following three things do think the government should do... **(READ)**

a. Take some action to ensure that all Americans have health insurance coverage

b. Make a start by helping some groups get health insurance
OR...

c. Leave things they way they are now?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
60%	43%	76%	57%	Option A - (Coverage for all)
24	31	16	30	Option B - (Help some groups)
13	24	4	12	Option C - (Leave as is)
*	1	*	1	Other (VOL.)
2	*	4	*	Don't know
1	1	*	*	Refused

12. Medicare is the government program that provides health insurance primarily to people who are 65 and older. Do you think the recent debate about reducing future Medicare spending was MAINLY about...

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
31%	39%	29%	26%	Preventing the Medicare program from going bankrupt
34	32	37	34	Balancing the federal budget?
20	15	24	23	Paying for a tax cut?
3	2	1	3	None of these/other (VOL.)
12	12	9	14	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

13. Do you think Congress should or should NOT make major reductions in future spending on Medicare to balance the federal budget?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
19%	31%	10%	16%	Should
77	65	87	80	Should not
4	4	3	4	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

14. Do you think Congress should or should NOT make major reductions in future spending on Medicare to prevent the Medicare program from going bankrupt?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
37%	52%	32%	33%	Should
54	41	60	56	Should not
9	7	7	10	Don't know
*	*	1	1	Refused

15. Now I'm going to read you two statements about the future of the Medicare program. After I read both statements, please tell me which one comes closer to your own view. The first one is... **(READ)**

a. Medicare should remain as it is today, with a defined set of benefits for people over 65 and the government providing them with a single insurance card.
OR...
b. Medicare should be changed so that people over 65 would receive a check or voucher from the government each year for a fixed amount they can use to shop for their own private health insurance policy

Total	65 years+	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
64%	86%	50%	72%	70%	Option A - (should remain as it is today)
32	12	48	26	26	Option B - (should be changed)
3	2	2	2	3	Don't know
1	*	*	*	1	Refused

16. What about the idea of giving people over 65 the VOLUNTARY choice of receiving a check for a fixed amount each year instead of current Medicare benefits? Would you prefer this change over keeping Medicare as it is today, or not?

Total	65 years+	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
13%	7%	8%	15%	16%	Prefer voluntary voucher
32	12	48	26	26	Prefer voucher system in Q23
49	76	41	54	53	Keep Medicare as is
5	5	2	5	4	Don't know
1	*	1	*	1	Refused

17. Would you still feel this way if you knew that it might increase costs for those who chose to stay in traditional Medicare?

Total	65 years+	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
21%	13%	32%	16%	20%	Favor change despite cost issue
19	3	20	18	18	Would no longer favor
49	76	41	54	53	Do not favor charge
10	8	7	11	9	Don't know
1	*	*	1	*	Refused

18. Currently, the federal and state governments share the responsibility for Medicaid, the program which provides health and nursing home benefits for the poor, low-income elderly, and disabled. In general, do you favor or oppose proposals to turn over the responsibility for Medicaid to the states?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
47%	63%	34%	47%	Favor
43	30	55	41	Oppose
10	7	11	12	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

19. Would you still feel this way if you knew that each state would be given only a fixed amount of federal dollars along with the flexibility to decide how to spend it?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
29%	48%	16%	30%	Yes, would still favor
14	12	15	13	No, would change my mind
43	30	55	41	Don't favor state run Medicaid
14	10	14	16	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

20. Would you be willing to see the federal government spend more to provide long-term care for the elderly, even if it means you would have to pay more in taxes?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
68%	54%	77%	70%	Yes, willing
28	42	19	27	No, not willing
4	4	4	3	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

21. Would you be willing to pay more through higher health insurance premiums in order to improve mental health coverage for all Americans, or not?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
38%	29%	46%	40%	Yes, willing
57	67	49	55	No, not willing
5	4	5	5	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

22. Compared to five years ago, do you think the cost of health care for families is a bigger problem, less of a problem, or about the same?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
73%	65%	79%	75%	Bigger
1	2	1	*	Less
24	31	18	23	Same
2	2	2	2	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

23. Compared to five years ago, do you think the problem of Americans not having health insurance is a bigger problem, less of a problem, or about the same?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
70%	57%	75%	74%	Bigger
2	2	3	2	Less
26	38	20	22	Same
2	3	2	2	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

24. I'd like to ask you to think about uninsured Americans--that is, people with no health insurance at all. Would you say that more of them are... **(READ AND ROTATE)**

a. Employed people and people from families in which someone is employed?
OR, that more of them are...
b. Unemployed people and people from families in which no one is employed?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
42%	41%	44%	41%	Option A - (employed)
50	52	46	52	Option B - (unemployed)
8	7	10	7	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

25. Is it your impression that people in your community without health insurance are unable to get medical treatment, or that those uninsured people are still able to get the medical care they need from doctors and hospitals?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
30%	18%	35%	33%	Unable to get care
62	76	56	60	Still able to get care
7	6	9	7	Don't know
1	*	*	*	Refused

26. For which ONE of the following groups, if any, do you think we should try to provide health insurance coverage first? (READ AND ROTATE ITEMS 1-4)

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
48%	53%	45%	46%	Children
22	21	22	23	Working people who are currently uninsured
15	13	16	15	All low-income people
10	9	10	11	People who need long-term care
4	2	6	4	Don't know
1	1	1	1	Other (VOL.)
*	1	*	*	None (VOL.)
*	*	*	*	Refused

27. Would you be willing to pay more--either in higher health insurance premiums or higher taxes--in order to guarantee health insurance coverage for all Americans, or not?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
60%	46%	72%	63%	Yes, willing
36	49	26	35	No, not willing
3	5	2	1	Don't know
1	*	*	1	Refused

28. Some members of Congress have proposed legislation that would require health insurers to offer coverage to people who lose or change jobs -- without regard to pre-existing medical conditions -- as long as they pay their insurance premiums. Before this interview, had you heard or read about this proposal, or not?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
43%	47%	40%	44%	Yes, heard of
56	52	59	56	No, not heard
1	1	1	*	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

29. **(READ AND ROTATE ORDER OF ARGUMENTS A AND B)**

ARGUMENT A:
Supporters say this legislation would help protect some people who change or lose their jobs from being denied the opportunity to continue their coverage and would make insurance available to more Americans. They also say that helping to solve this problem is the federal government's responsibility.

ARGUMENT B:
Opponents say this legislation would raise health insurance costs for many people and would result in more people dropping their coverage. They also say the federal government should not be telling insurance companies how to run their business.

After hearing these arguments, do you favor or oppose this proposed legislation, or don't you know enough about these issues to have an opinion?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
31%	31%	32%	30%	Favor
12	10	9	11	Oppose
57	52	58	59	Don't know enough
*	*	*	*	Refused

29. (Continued)

Of Those Who Are Aware of Kassebaum/Kennedy	
47%	Yes, willing
14	No, not willing
38	Don't know
1	Refused

30. Some members of Congress have proposed legislation that would allow employers to offer their employees health insurance through a new arrangement called a Medical Savings Account. Before this interview, had you heard or read about this proposal, or not?

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
30%	37%	26%	31%	Yes, heard or read
69	63	73	68	No, not heard or read
1	*	1	1	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

INTRODUCTION TO Q.31:

I'm going to give you some information about how Medical Savings Accounts would work, and then ask your opinion of them... Medical Savings Accounts would allow employers to purchase plans with lower premiums that would only provide coverage after the employee pays about...

FORM A: $2,000 a year in medical bills.
FORM B: $5,000 a year in medical bills.

Any savings the employer gets by offering this less expensive plan could be put into the employee's tax-free medical savings account, which could be used to help pay the first ($2,000/$5,000) in medical bills or any additional medical expenses. If it is not spent, it could be withdrawn as additional taxable income or saved to spend on next year's medical bills.

31. **(READ AND ROTATE ORDER OF ARGUMENTS A AND B)**

ARGUMENT A:
Supporters of Medical Savings Accounts say this will lower individuals' health care costs, because it would give individuals the incentive to spend their own money more carefully. They also say this would reduce hassle for people to go to a doctor of their own choice without getting the approval of the insurance company.

ARGUMENT B:
Opponents say that, because people would have to pay the first...

FORM A: $2,000
FORM B: $5,000

...for doctor and hospital visits at the time they receive care, Medical Savings Accounts would discourage people from getting needed services and preventive care. They also say that, because healthier people are more likely to sign up for Medical Savings Accounts, this would leave sicker people paying higher premiums.

After hearing these arguments, do you favor or oppose this proposed legislation to create Medical Savings Accounts, or don't you know enough about these issues to have an opinion?

Form A - $2,000 (n=528)

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
28%	43%	18%	25%	Favor
36	30	43	38	Oppose
36	26	39	37	Don't know enough
*	1	*	*	Refused

Form B - $5,000 (n=483)

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
18%	25%	10%	22%	Favor
42	35	52	39	Oppose
40	40	38	39	Don't know enough
0	0	0	0	Refused

Of Those Who Follow the MSA Debate

$2,000	$5,000	
44%	33%	Favor
35	42	Oppose
21	25	Don't know enough
*	*	Refused

32. If you were given a choice, how likely would you be to choose the Medical Savings Accounts option for your health insurance coverage? **(READ)**

Form A - $2,000 (n=528)

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
21%	28%	15%	18%	Very likely
22	22	21	23	Somewhat likely
20	25	23	14	Not too likely
32	24	34	40	Not at all likely
4	2	5	5	Don't know
1	*	2	*	Refused

Form B - $5,000 (n=483)

Total	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	
12%	19%	9%	11%	Very likely
25	28	22	26	Somewhat likely
22	25	25	18	Not too likely
37	25	42	41	Not at all likely
4	3	2	4	Don't know
*	*	*	*	Refused

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THE KAISER-HARVARD PROGRAM ON THE PUBLIC AND HEALTH/SOCIAL POLICY

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE UNTIL:
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PUBLIC NOT FOLLOWING BATTLES IN WASHINGTON OVER KASSEBAUM/KENNEDY AND MEDICAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Most Say Don't Know Enough To Express An Opinion; Those Who Do, Favor Insurance Reform and Are More Negative Toward MSAs

Most Americans Oppose Changes in Medicare, Even to Save Program from Bankruptcy

Washington, D.C. -- While Congress wrestles with health insurance reforms and medical savings accounts (MSAs), most Americans say they have neither read nor heard about these debates. Even after being read descriptions of the proposals, many say they don't know enough to form an opinion, according to a new national survey. Those who offer an opinion regarding insurance reforms are favorable, while those with an opinion on MSAs tend to be more negative with the size of the MSA deductible affecting the levels of support and opposition.

After the extended debate of the last year, Americans are more likely to have opinions about Medicare and Medicaid. The public is resistant to major spending reductions in the Medicare program, even to prevent it from going bankrupt. Americans are split over whether responsibility for Medicaid should be turned over to the states, but the majority of the public opposes a Medicaid block grant when they learn that along with more flexibility states would also get a fixed amount of federal money.

After a considerable lapse in public interest following the demise of the health reform debate, health appears to be rising again on the list of issues people say they are concerned about. Health care in general (excluding Medicare) ranked third, behind concerns about the economy and candidate characteristics among issues that people say would influence their vote in the upcoming presidential election. In addition, Medicare was tied for seventh. The vast majority of Americans believe that health care costs and the uninsured are bigger problems today than five years ago. And, a plurality believe that the health care system is getting worse.

These findings are from the latest survey designed to monitor public knowledge, opinions, and beliefs on health and health-related issues conducted by the Kaiser-Harvard Program on the Public and Health/Social Policy. The survey was designed by the Kaiser Family Foundation, Harvard University, and Princeton Survey Research Associates (PSRA), and conducted by PSRA.

-- more --

When asked if they would choose an MSA if they had a choice, 21 percent of Americans say they would be very likely to choose an MSA with a $2,000 deductible and 22 percent say they would be somewhat likely to choose an MSA at this level of deductible. Only 12 percent would be very likely to choose an MSA with a $5,000 deductible and 25 percent would be somewhat likely.

Only a minority of Americans (30 percent) say they have followed the debate over MSAs, but they are more favorable than the general public toward the proposal -- 44 percent favor a MSA that would provide coverage after an employee pays $2,000 in medical bills, while one-third (35 percent) oppose it. For a MSA with a $5,000 deductible, support among those following the debate falls to 34 percent and opposition rises to 42 percent.

- **Medicare**

In the war of words over the future of the Medicare program, much has been staked on whether the debate is about the future solvency of the program, balancing the Federal budget, or tax cuts. When asked what they believe the debate over Medicare is about, the public is divided with 34 percent saying that the debate is about balancing the federal budget, 31 percent to save the program from bankruptcy, and 20 percent to pay for a tax cut. Regardless of the rationale offered, however, there is little support for altering the present system. A majority of Americans believe Congress should not make major reductions in future spending on Medicare, even to head off insolvency (54 percent). Changes to the Medicare system draw even less support when the objective is balancing the budget (77 percent oppose).

Likewise, the public has not entirely warmed up to a defined contribution or voucher plan for Medicare: only 32 percent favor mandatory vouchers that would be used to purchase private health insurance, while 64 percent favor keeping Medicare as it is today. Attitudes towards a voluntary voucher are more mixed with slightly more Americans opposing a voluntary voucher system (49 percent) than favoring it (45 percent). Support for a voluntary voucher drops to (21 percent) if told that such a program might increase costs to those who remain in the traditional Medicare program, a criticism some made of voucher plans. Among those 65 years and older, only 19% support a voluntary voucher plan.

Among Americans who say health care or Medicare will influence their vote in the 1996 election (14 percent of the general public), almost nine out of ten (89 percent) oppose major reductions in Medicare spending to balance the federal budget. Twenty-two percent of Americans 65 years and older say health care or Medicare is one of the top two issues which will influence their vote.

- **Medicaid**

Americans are split on whether they think responsibility for Medicaid should be turned over to the states with 47 favoring state control and 43 percent opposing it. However, support for state control drops to 29 percent and opposition rises to 57 percent when the public is informed that in addition to being given flexibility in running Medicaid, each state would be given a fixed amount of Federal dollars under a block grant.

- Health care for children, 12 percent;
- Health care costs, 10 percent;
- Americans losing their health insurance, 9 percent; and
- Health insurance for those who can't afford it, 9 percent.

In a period when the public is very resistant to discussions of tax increases, the majority of the public (60 percent) say they are willing to pay higher taxes or insurance premiums to guarantee health insurance coverage to more people. At the same time, however, the public ranked rising taxes among their top overall concerns. The public expressed support for action on long-term care, with 68 percent saying they would be willing to pay more in taxes to help provide such care to the elderly. Thirty-eight percent say they would be willing to pay more to improve mental health coverage for all Americans.

Methodology

The Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA survey was conducted by telephone with 1,011 adults nationwide between June 20 and July 9, 1996. The margin of error is plus or minus 3 percent.

The Kaiser Family Foundation, based in Menlo Park, California, is a non-profit, independent national health care philanthropy and is not associated with Kaiser Permanente or Kaiser Industries. The Foundation's work is focused on four main areas: health policy, reproductive health, HIV, and health and development in South Africa.

Copies of the actual questionnaire and national top line data for the findings reported in this release (#1166) are available by calling the Kaiser Family Foundation's publication request line at 1-800-656-4533.

CHART PACK

THE KAISER-HARVARD PROGRAM ON THE PUBLIC AND HEALTH/SOCIAL POLICY

Survey of Americans on Health Policy

July 30, 1996

Conducted for the Foundation by
Princeton Survey Research Associates

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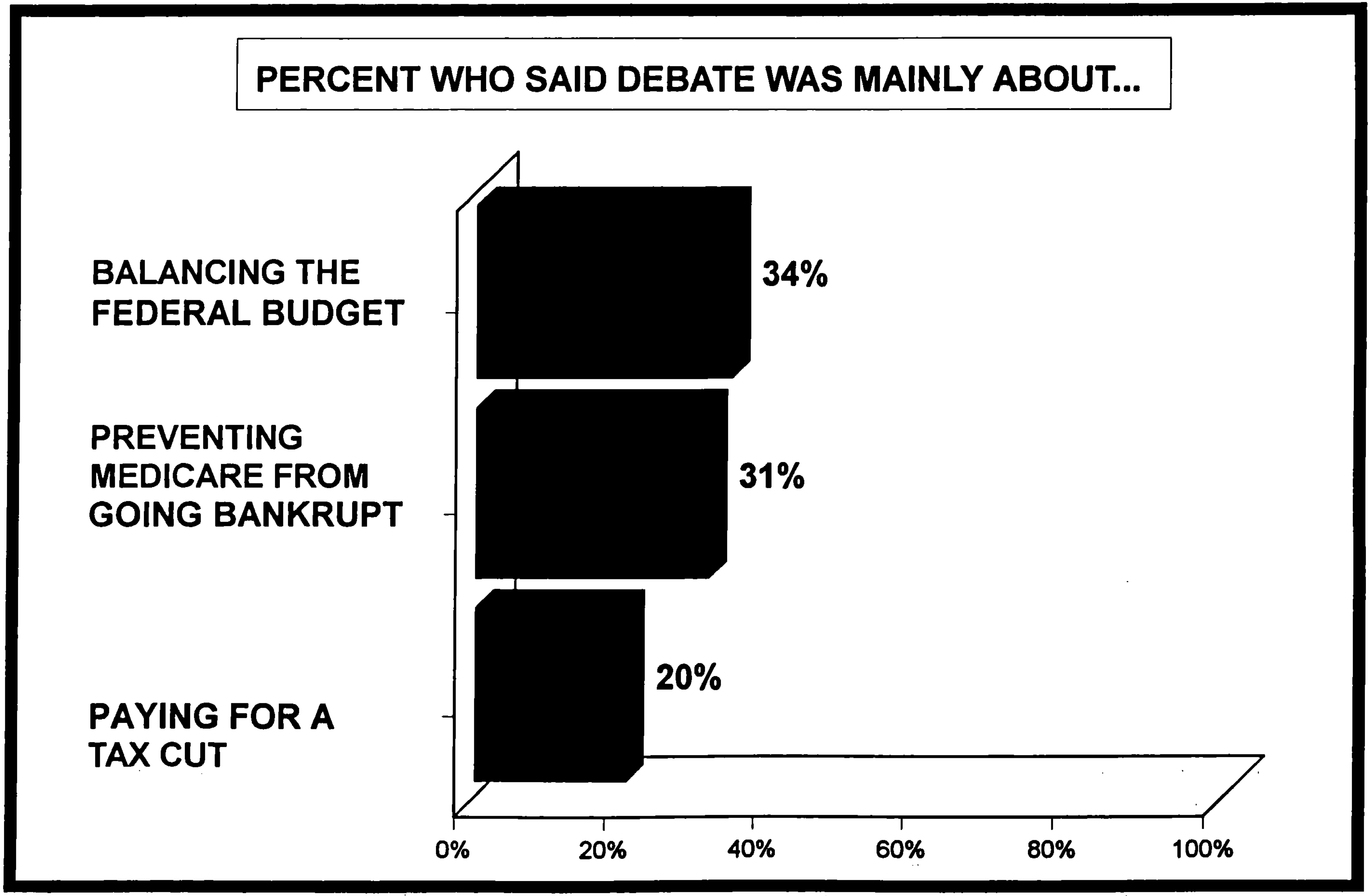
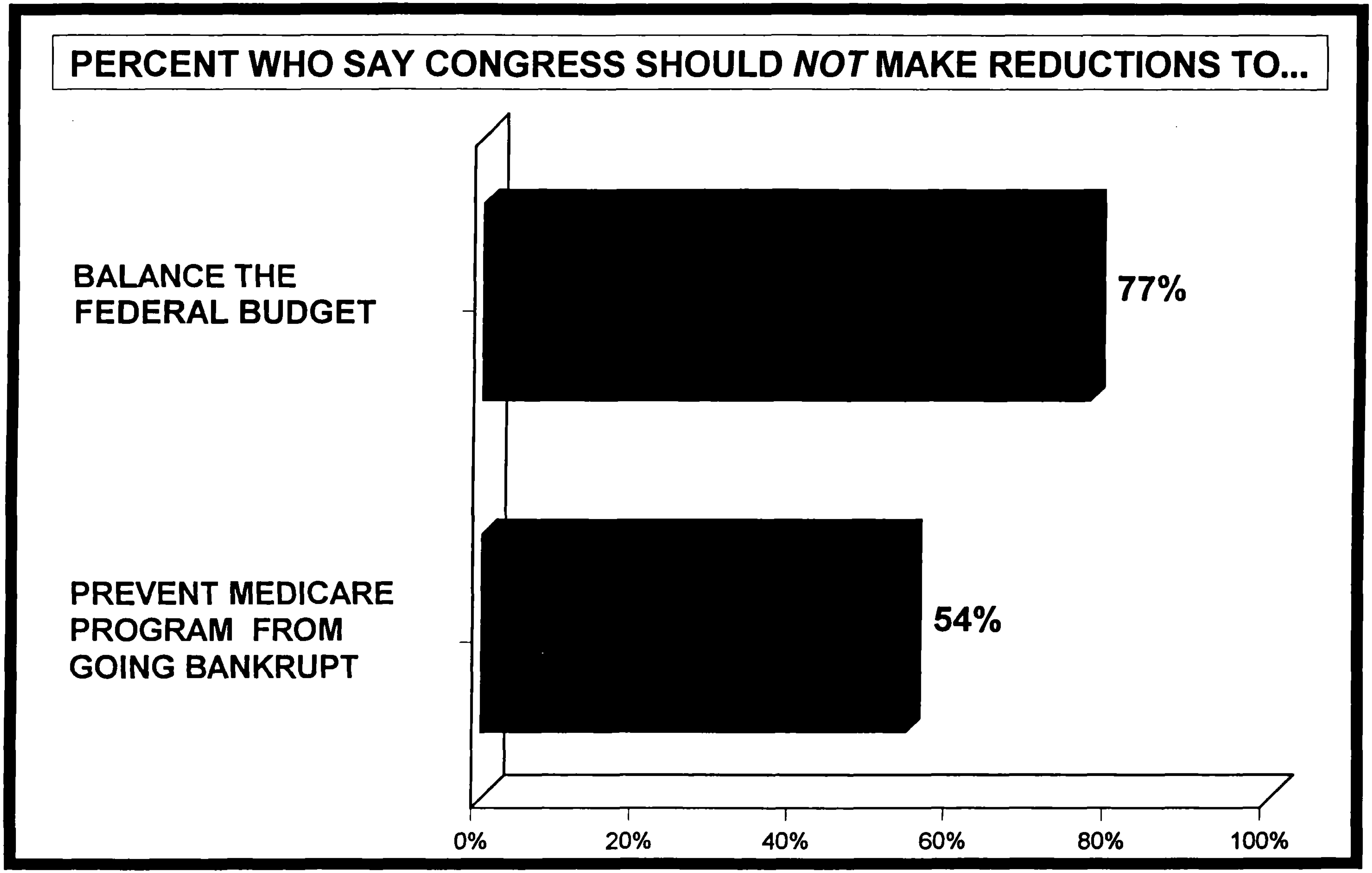
FIGURE 1

PUBLIC DOES NOT THINK DEBATE OVER MEDICARE IS ABOUT PREVENTING BANKRUPTCY



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

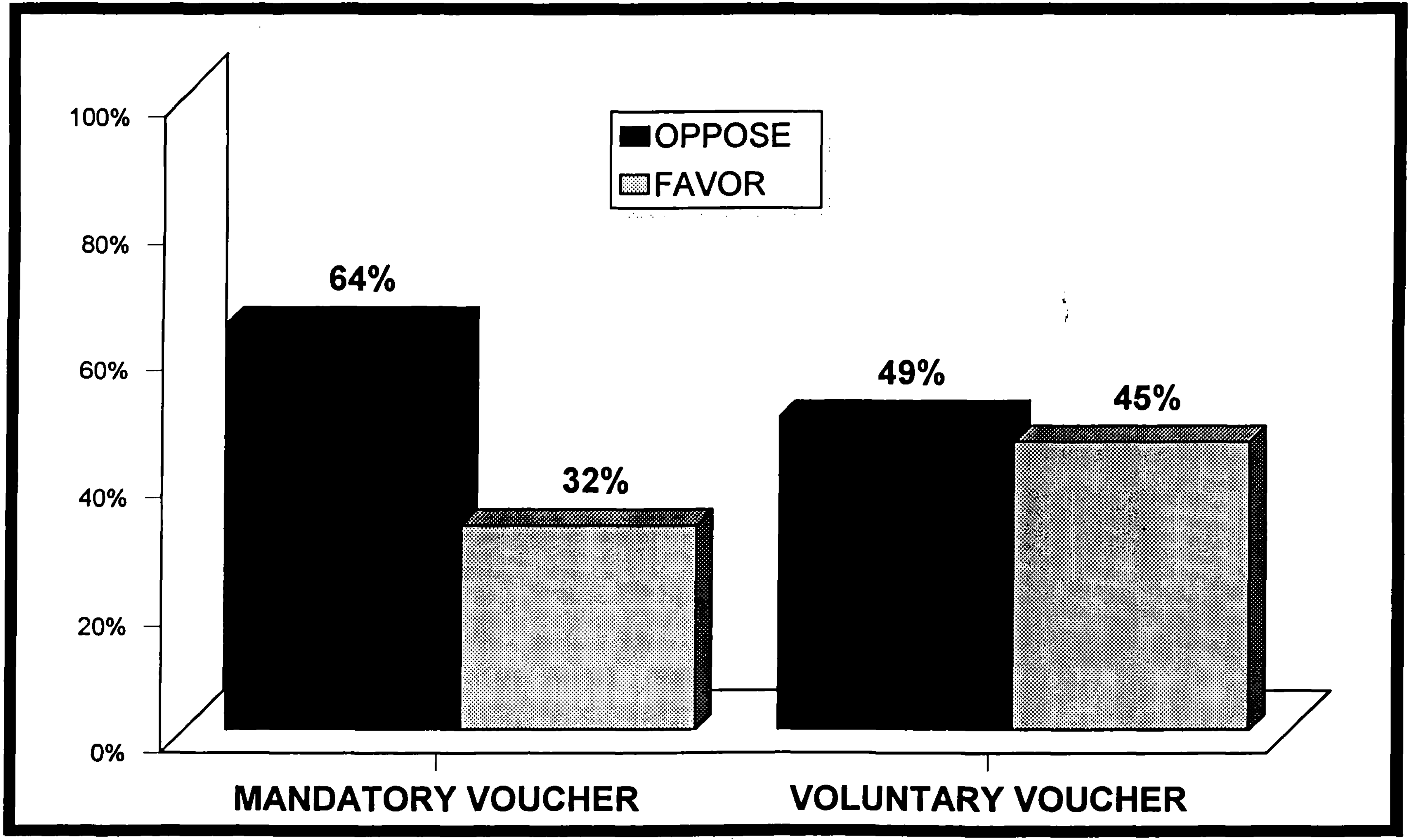
FIGURE 2
AMERICANS OPPOSE MAJOR REDUCTIONS IN FUTURE SPENDING ON MEDICARE



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 3

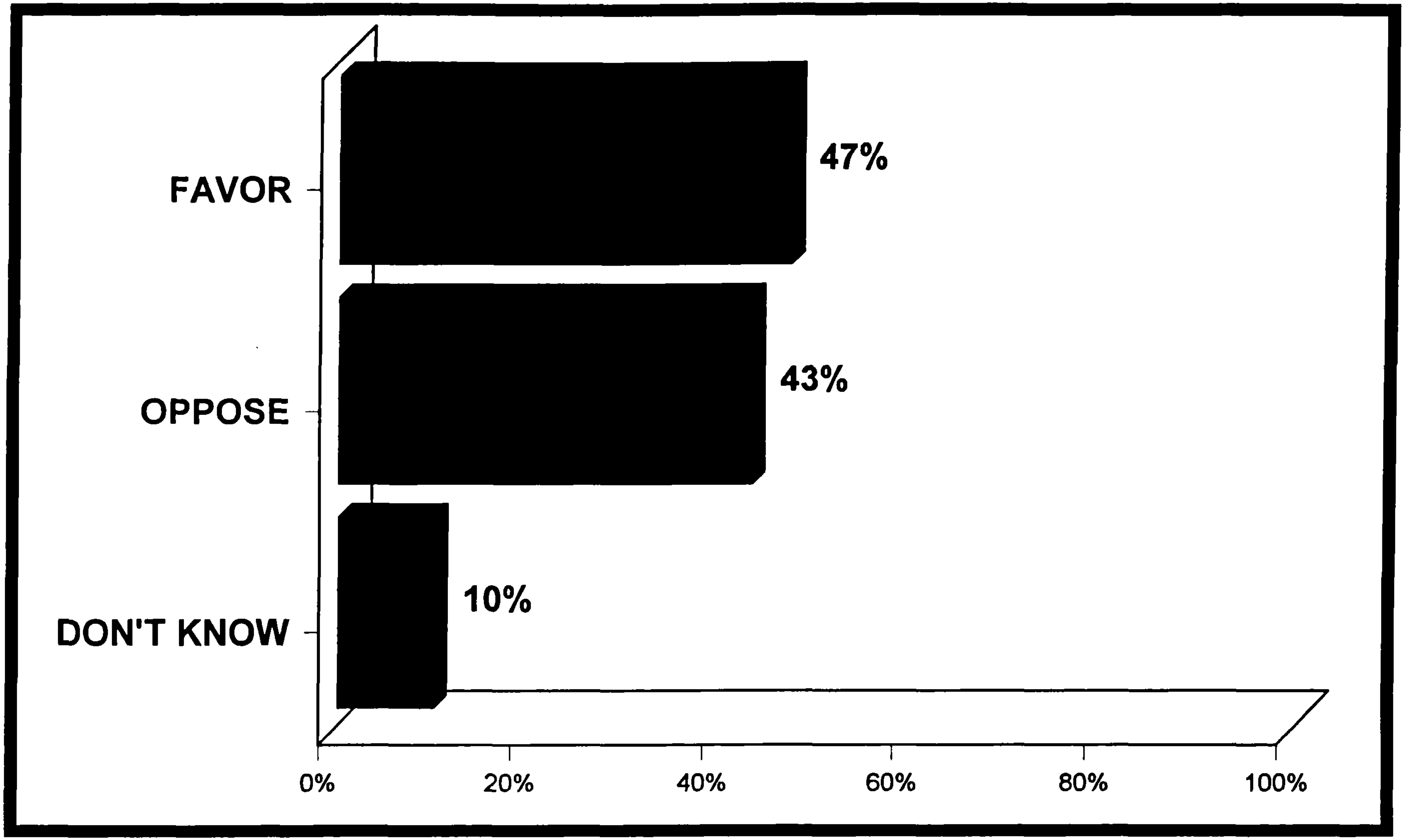
PUBLIC OPPOSED TO MANDATORY VOUCHERS FOR MEDICARE PROGRAM, MIXED ON VOLUNTARY VOUCHERS



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 4

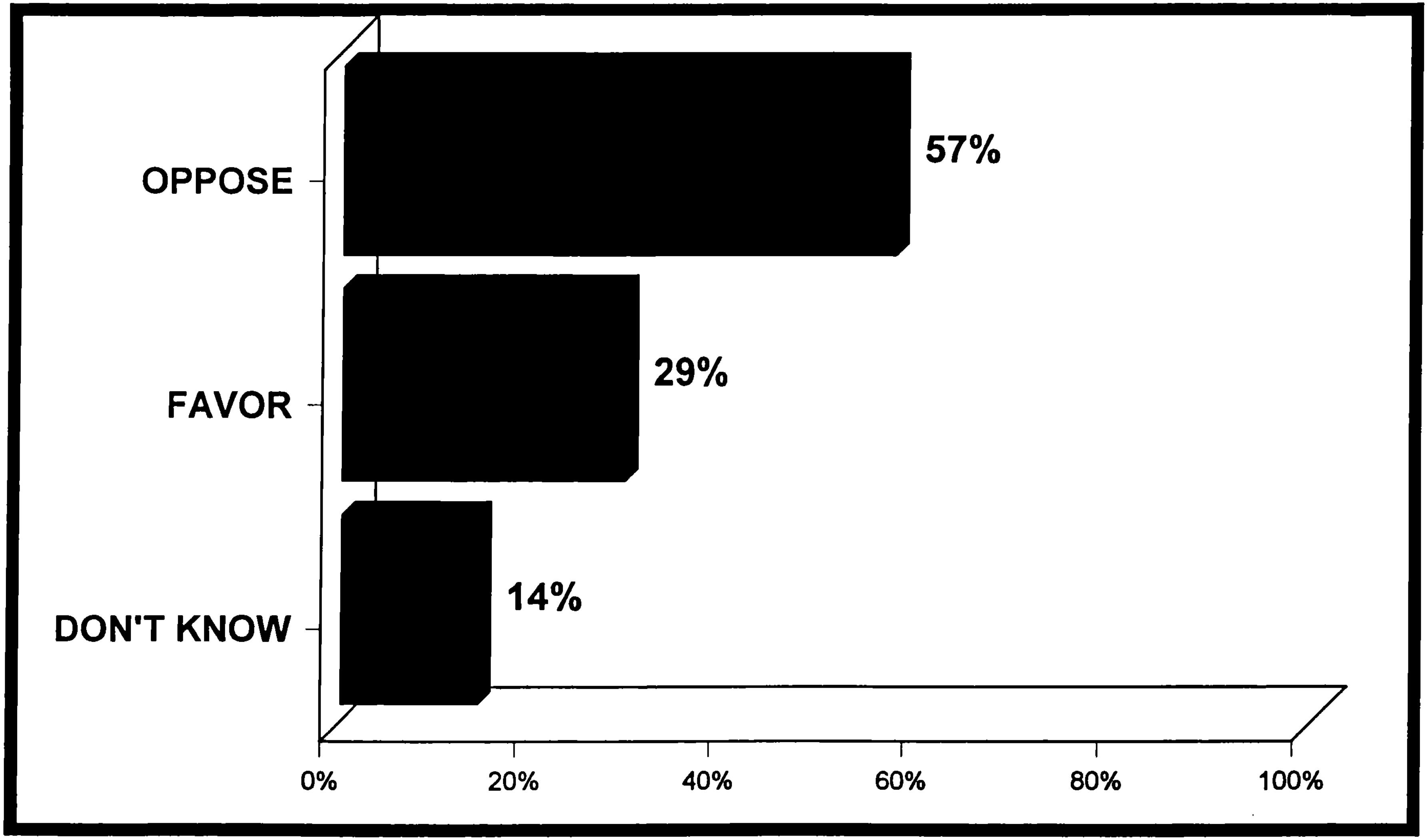
AMERICANS SPLIT ON TURNING OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR MEDICAID TO THE STATES



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 5

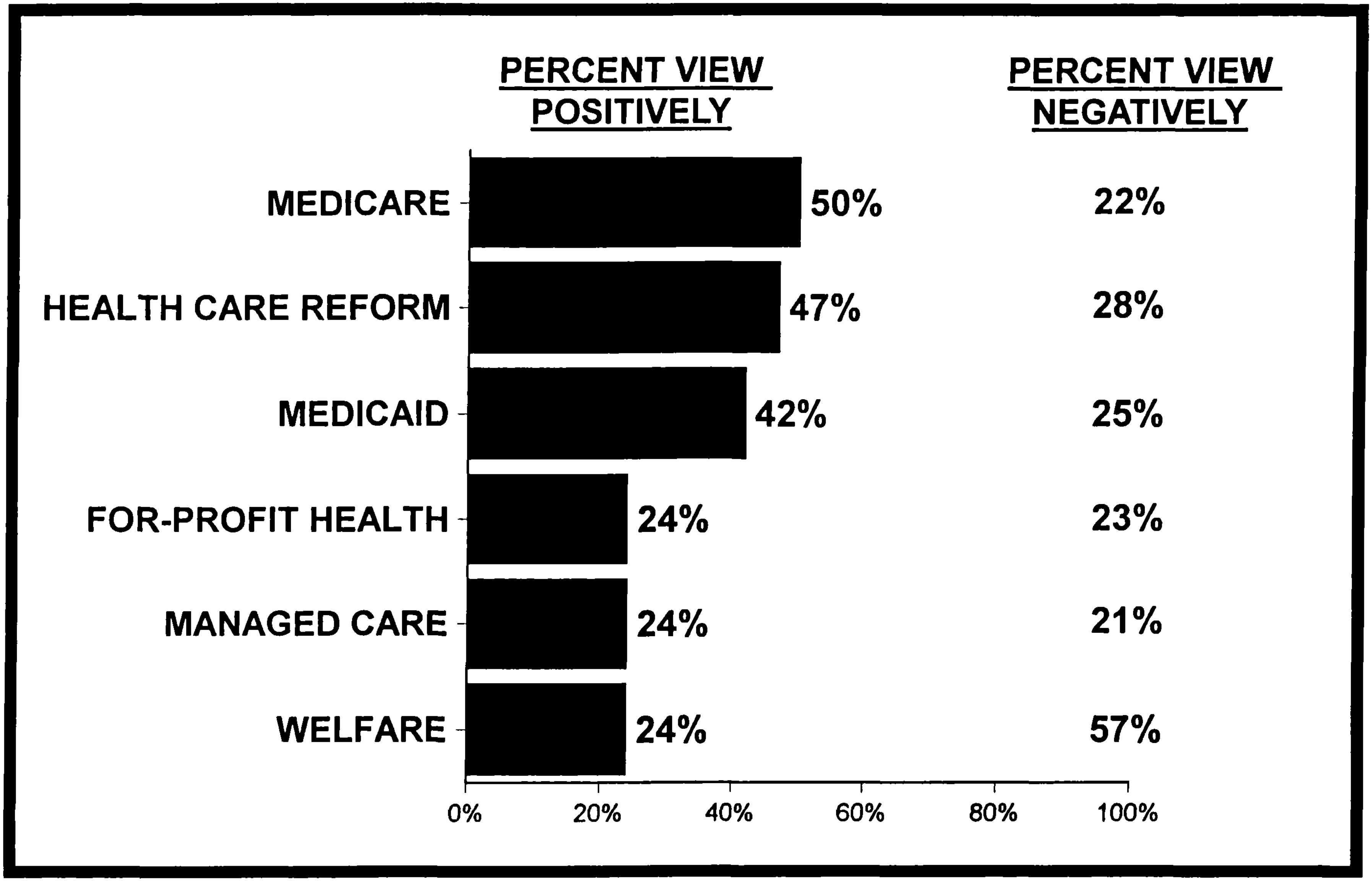
WHEN CAP OF FEDERAL DOLLARS EXPLAINED, AMERICANS OPPOSE TURNING MEDICAID OVER TO STATES



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 6

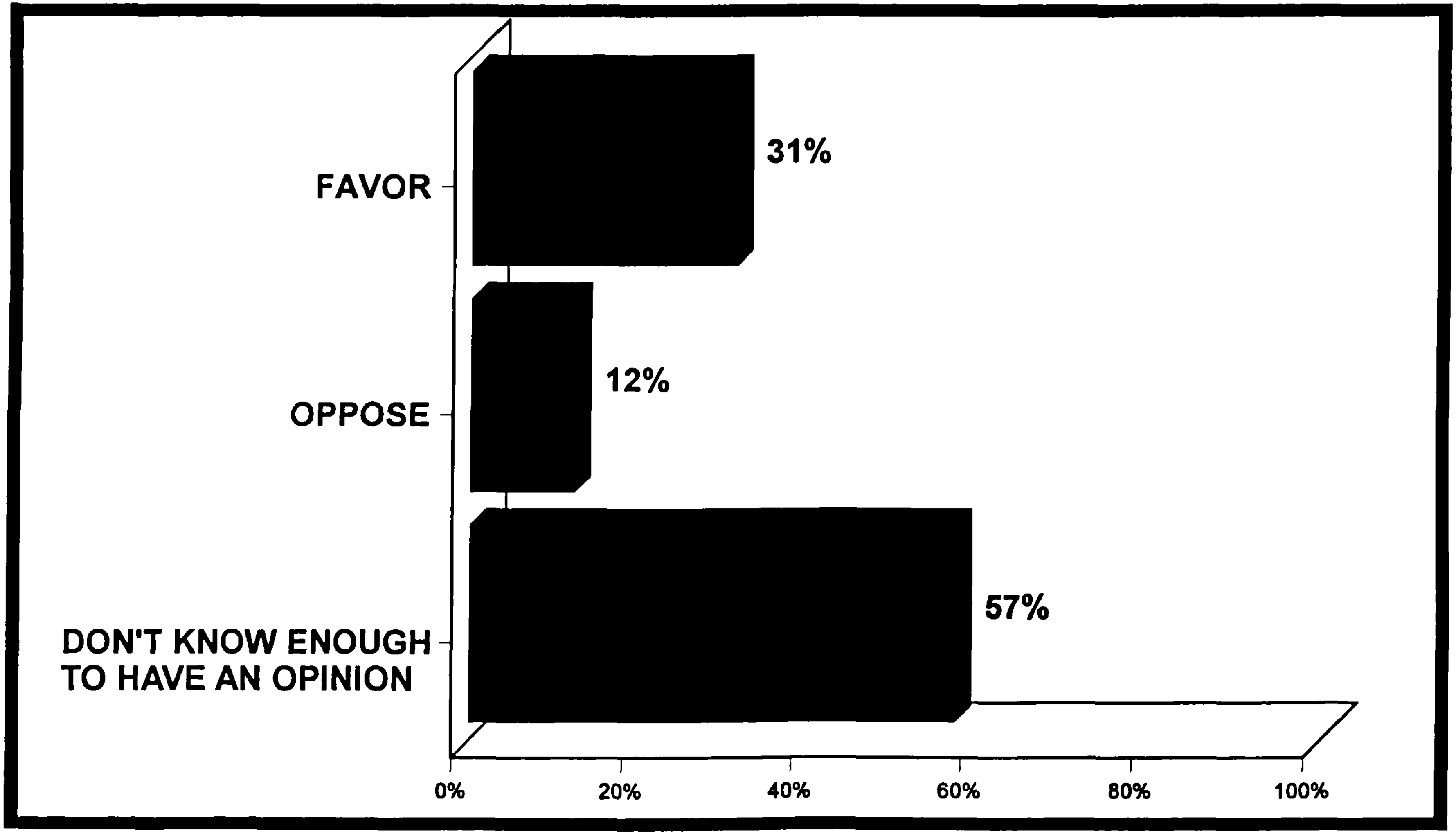
MEDICAID VIEWED FAVORABLY BY MANY AMERICANS



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 7

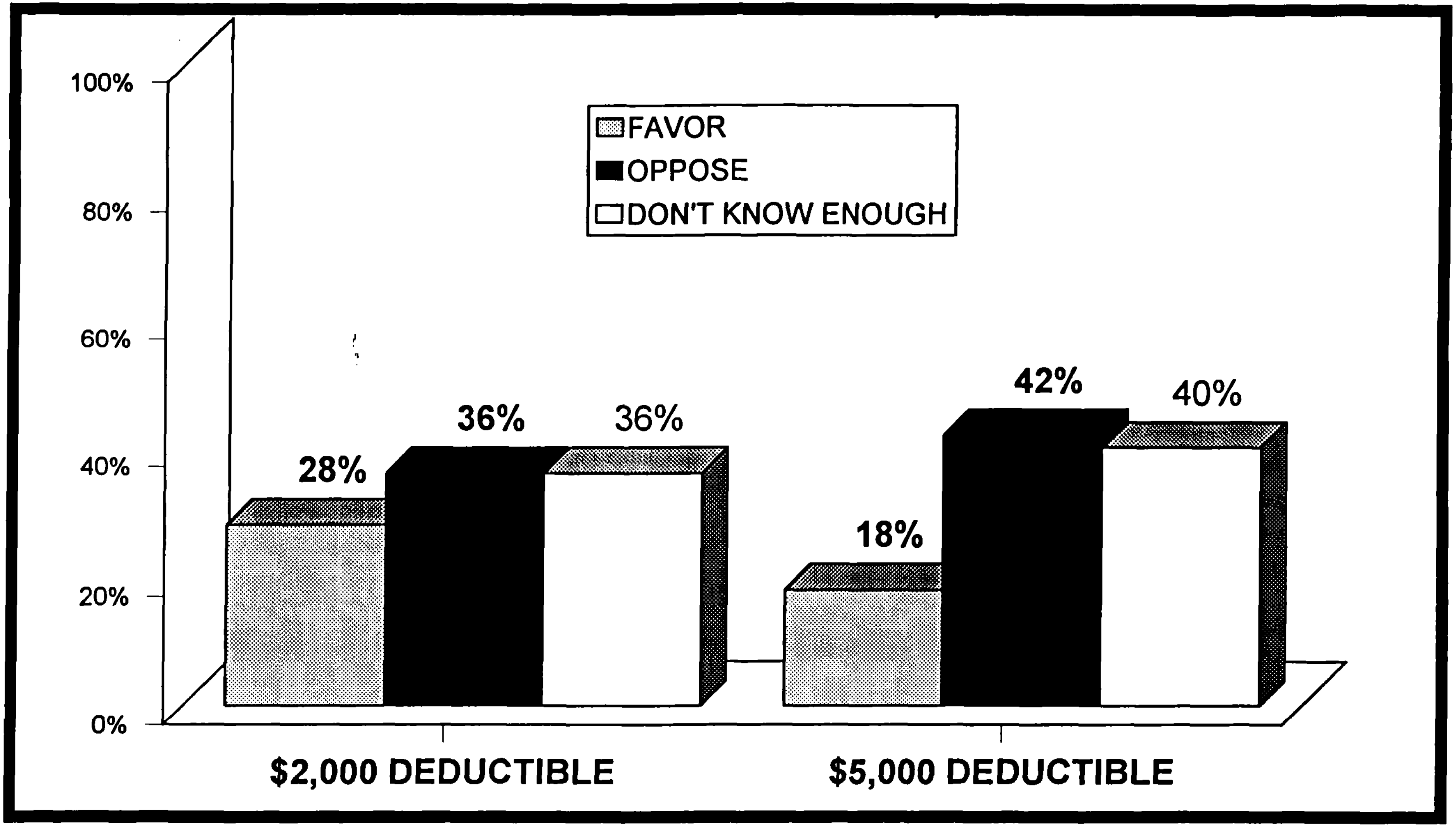
MOST AMERICANS HAVE NOT FORMED AN OPINION ON THE KASSEBAUM / KENNEDY BILL



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 8

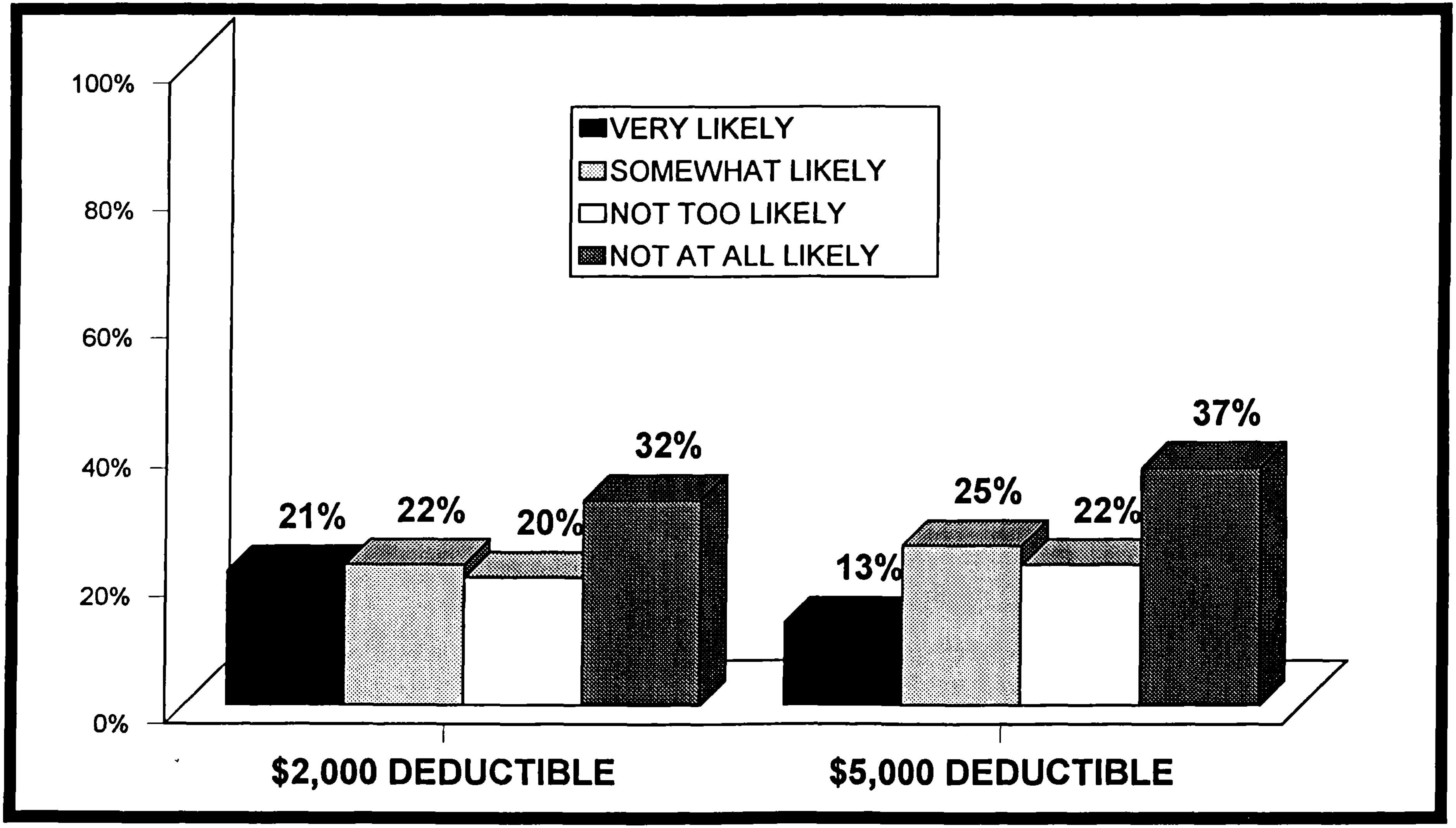
MORE AMERICANS OPPOSE THAN FAVOR MEDICAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS, ALTHOUGH SIZE OF DEDUCTIBLE MATTERS



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 9

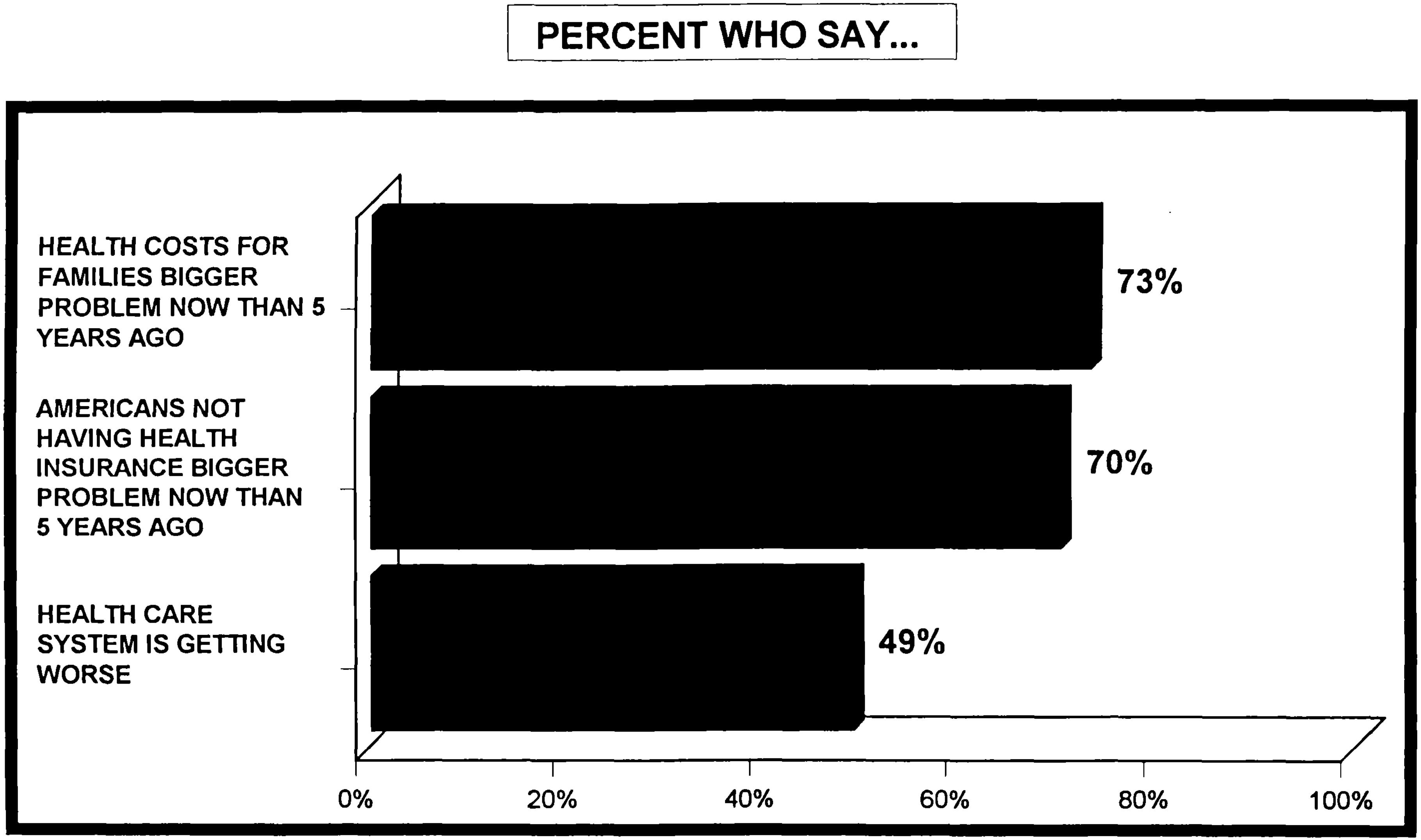
AMERICANS' PERSONAL INTEREST IN CHOOSING A MEDICAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 10

AMERICANS THINK HEALTH CARE PROBLEMS GETTING WORSE



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 11

MOST IMPORTANT ELECTION ISSUES

ECONOMY / JOBS	14%
CANDIDATES' CHARACTERISTICS	11%
HEALTH CARE (Excluding Medicare)	10%

Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 12

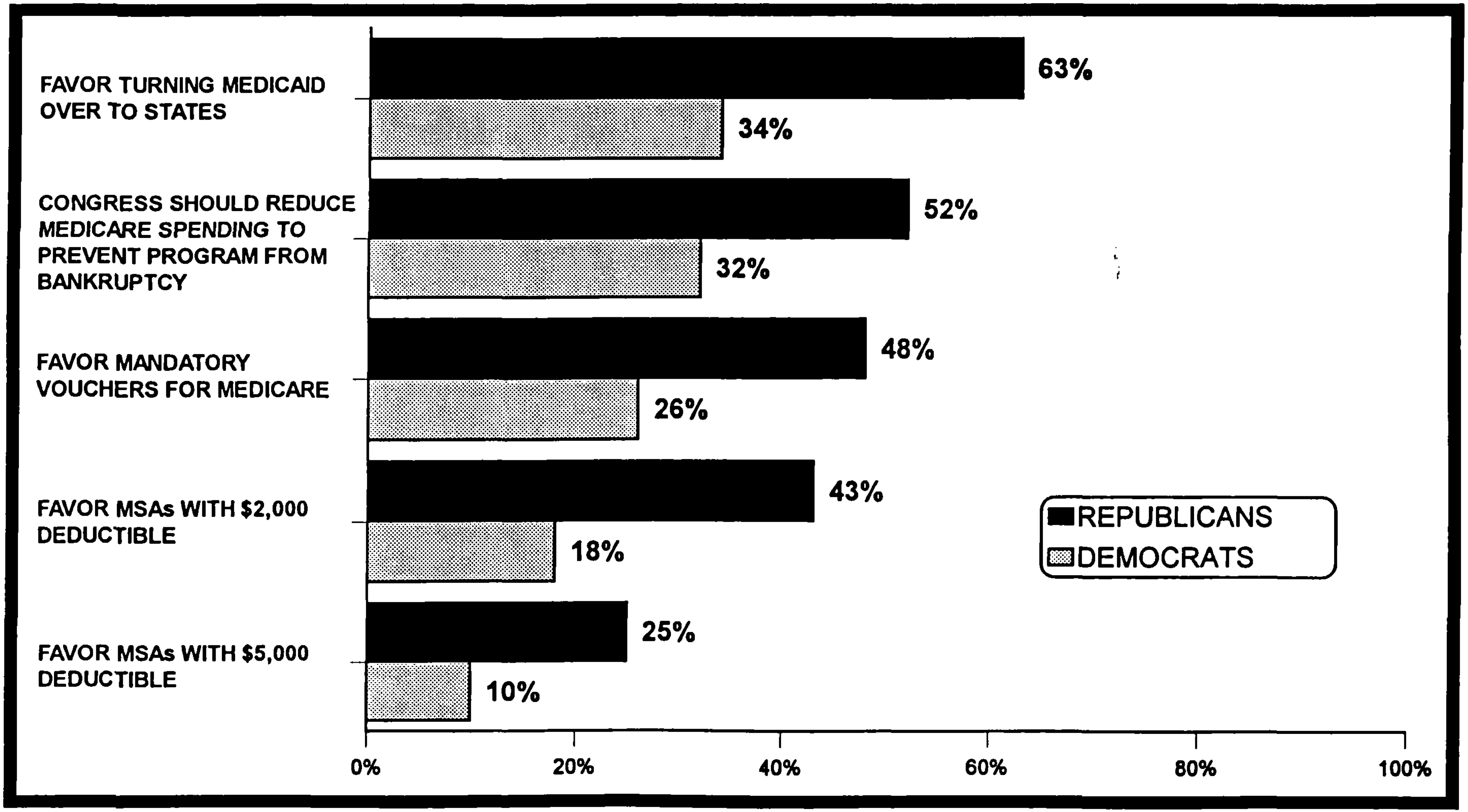
AMONG AMERICANS WHO SAY HEALTH CARE IS A VOTING ISSUE, MEDICARE IS THE TOP CONCERN

MEDICARE	25%
HEALTH CARE COSTS	18%
HEALTH CARE AVAILABILITY / ACCESS / UNIVERSAL COVERAGE	17%
HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN	7%
GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE	6%

Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 13

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS ON MAJOR HEALTH POLICY ISSUES



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 14

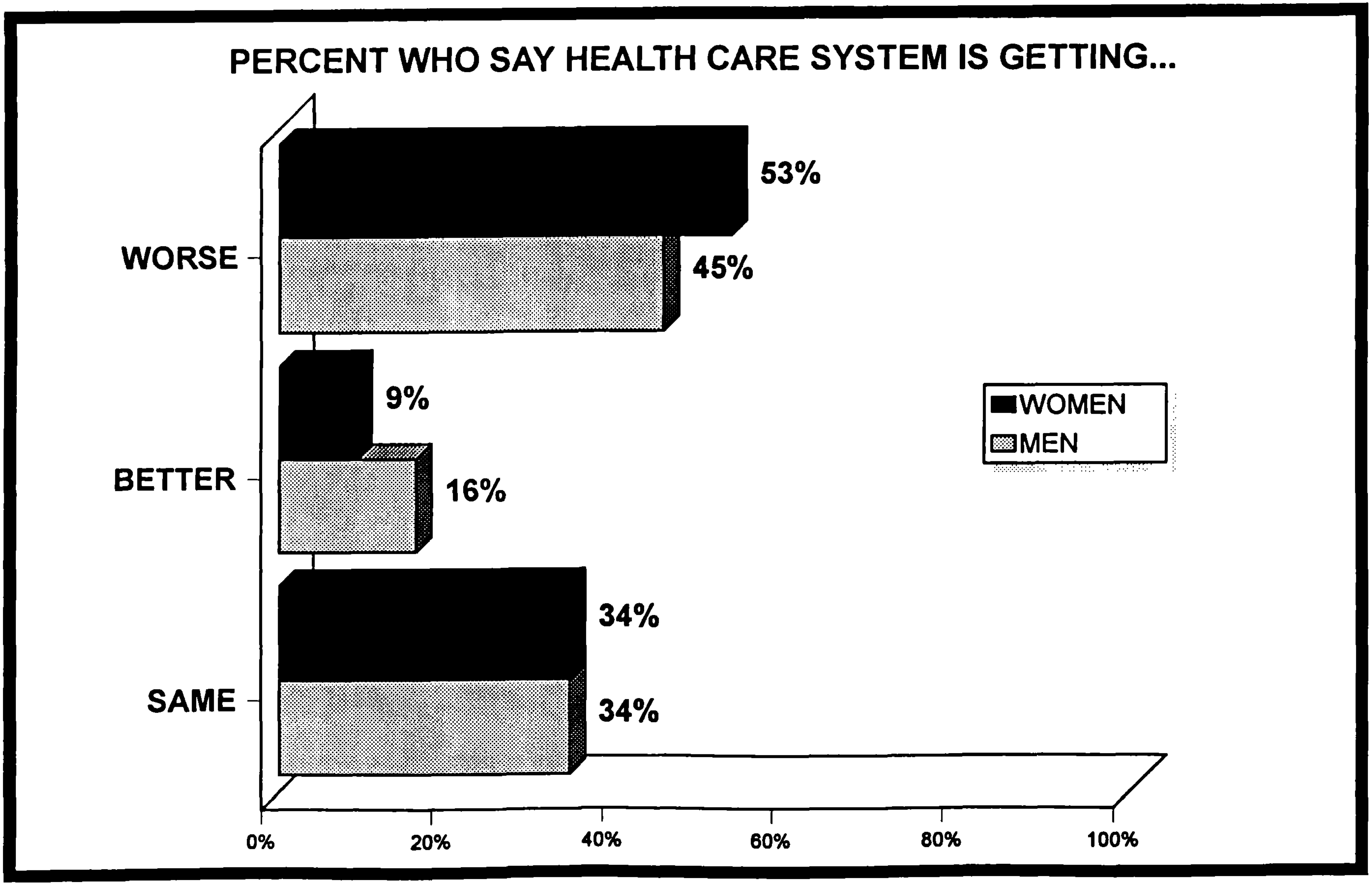
WOMEN MORE LIKELY TO RANK HEALTH CARE AMONG THEIR TOP VOTING ISSUES

MEN		WOMEN	
1	ECONOMY / JOBS (18%)	1	HEALTH CARE (13%) (Excl. Medicare)
2	CANDIDATE CHARACTERISTICS (13%)	2	ECONOMY / JOBS (11%)
3	DEFICIT / GOVT. SPENDING (9%)	3(t)	ABORTION (9%)
4	TAXES (8%)	3(t)	CANDIDATE CHARACTERISTICS (9%)
5	HEALTH CARE (7%) (Excl. Medicare)	5	TAXES (7%)

Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Sruvey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 15

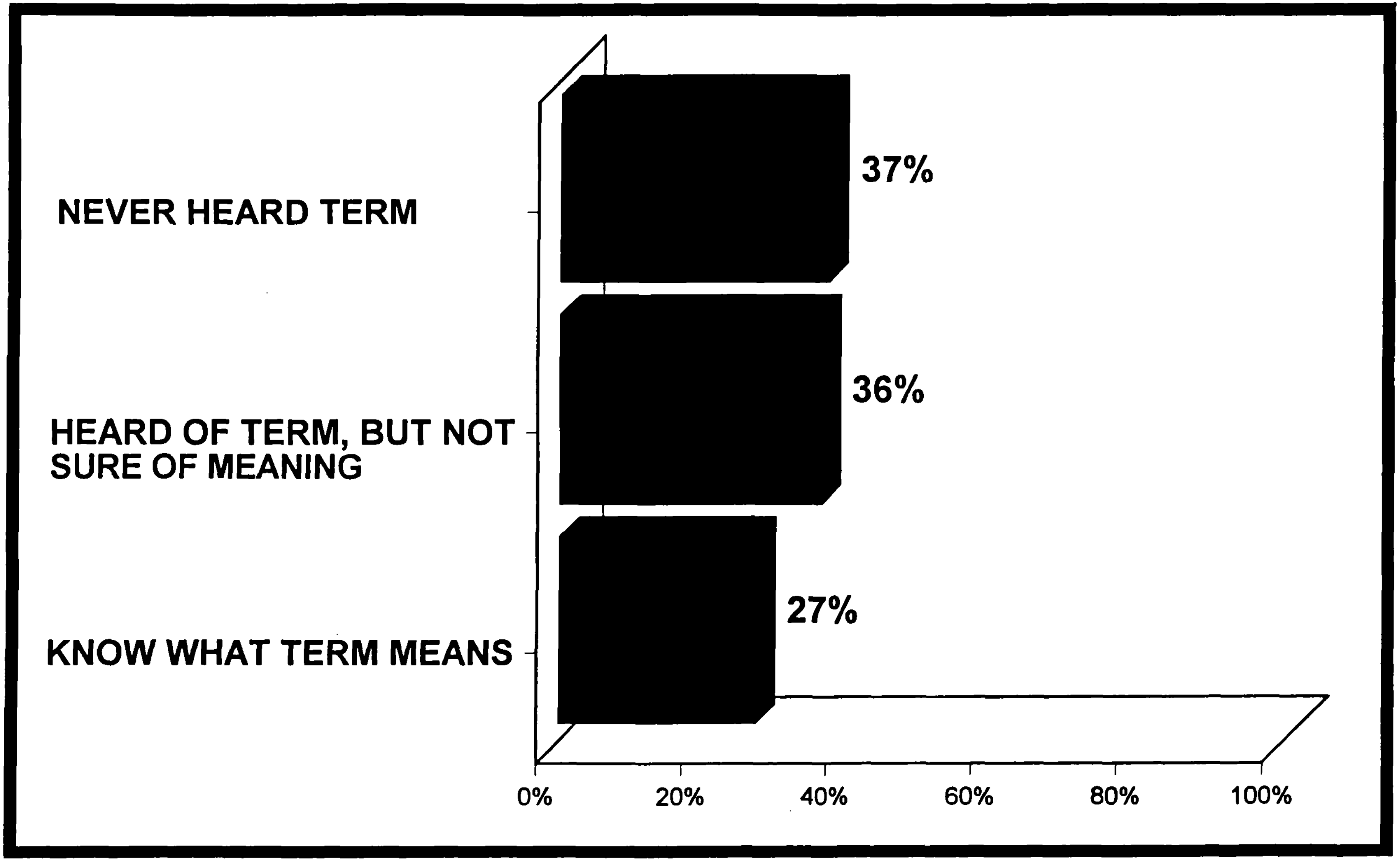
WOMEN MORE LIKELY TO THINK HEALTH SYSTEM IS GETTING WORSE



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 16

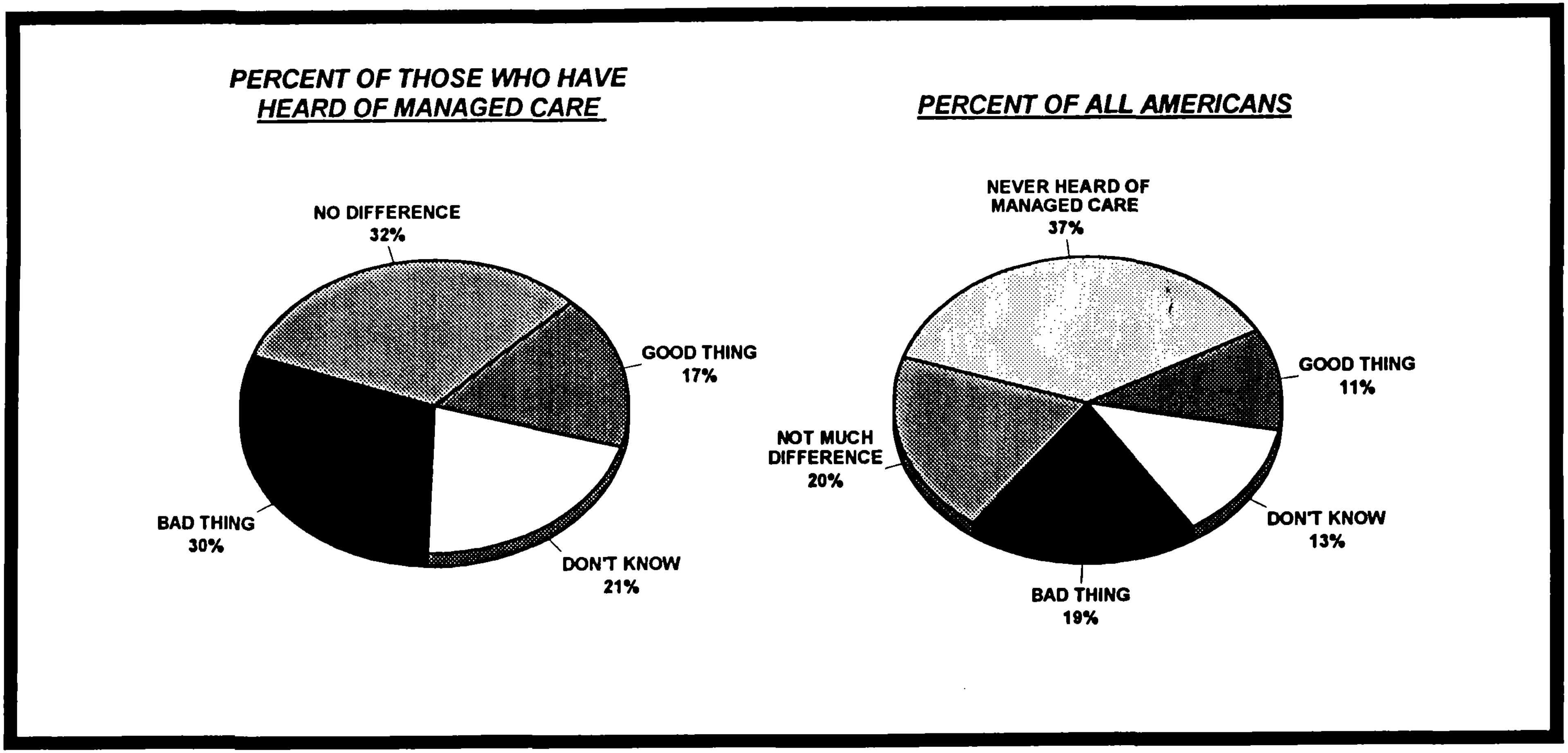
FEW AMERICANS KNOW WHAT THE TERM "MANAGED CARE PLAN" MEANS



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 17

AMERICANS HAVE MIXED FEELINGS TOWARD MANAGED CARE

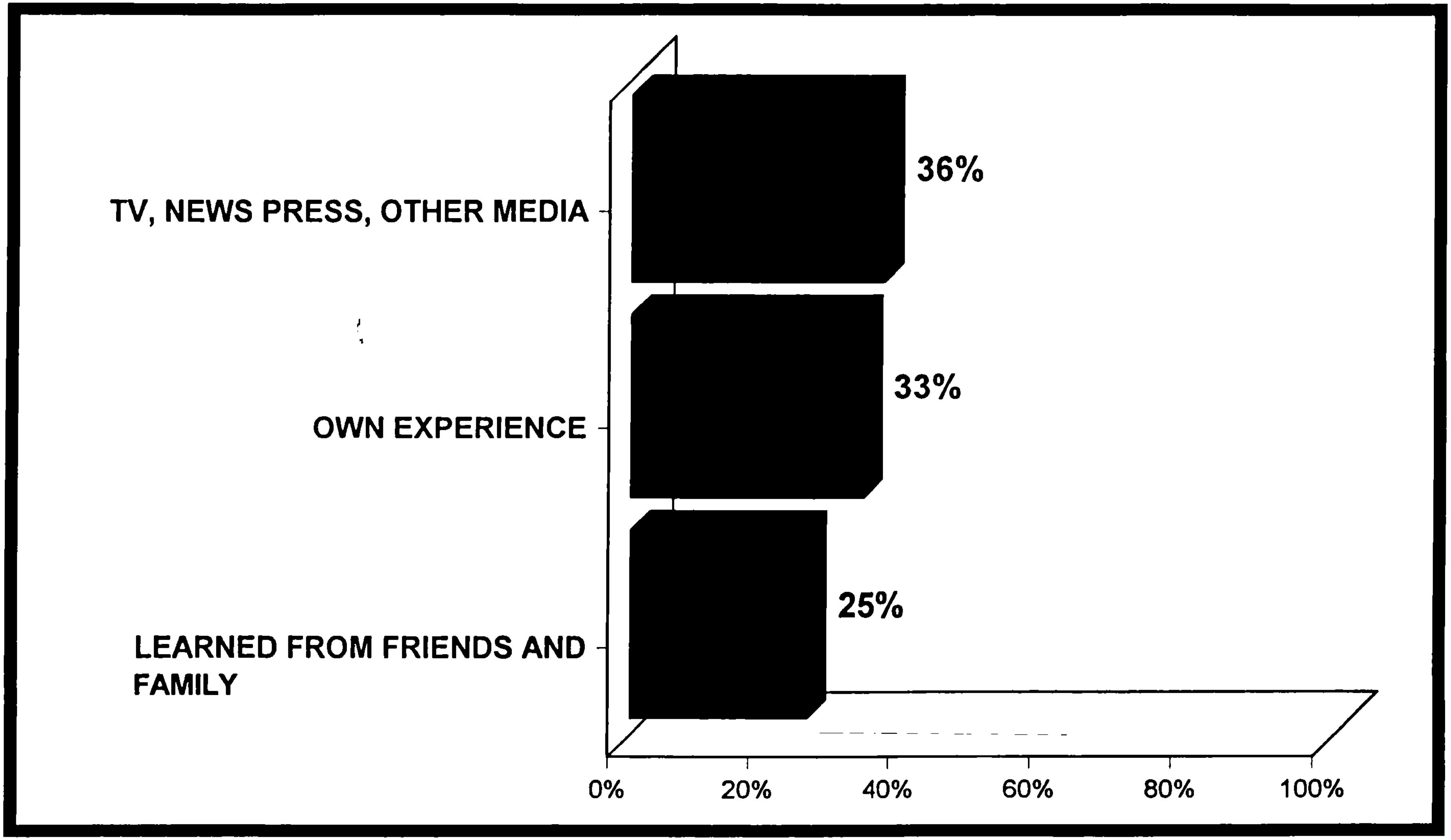


Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.

FIGURE 18

WHAT INFLUENCES NEGATIVE VIEWS ON MANAGED CARE?

QUESTION: *WHAT IS THE MAIN REASON YOU SAID MANAGED CARE WOULD BE A BAD THING FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?*



Source: Kaiser/Harvard/PSRA Survey of Americans on Health Policy, July 1996.