

## REPORT:

### WEST VIRGINIA'S HEALTHCARE COST CRISIS REVEALED

A new survey of likely voters in West Virginia reveals the toll that high-cost care and prescription drugs are taking on families across the state. The numbers are clear - many West Virginia residents are delaying needed care and cost barriers are preventing others from receiving treatment prescribed by a doctor – all realities that could lead to worse health outcomes.



## KEY FINDINGS

Conducted by Global Strategy Group and released by West Health, this new survey exposes how many are feeling the devastating impacts of unaffordable and inaccessible healthcare -- particularly during the pandemic. **For more information, read the [memo](#) and [summary](#) of results.**



In the last year, 1 in 3 West Virginia residents **did not seek treatment for a health problem due to cost of care.**

**33%**  
Avoided High Cost Care



Over 1,000,000 West Virginia residents **support allowing Medicare to negotiate with drug companies** to make drugs more affordable to patients over letting drug companies set prices.

**1M**  
Support Medicare Negotiation



Just under 244,000 West Virginia families have experienced the **death of a friend or family in the past 5 years** because they couldn't afford necessary medical treatment.

**244K**  
Have Lost a Loved One



In the last year, nearly 387,000 residents **could not pay for medicine or drugs** prescribed by their doctor.

**387K**  
Could Not Afford Rx Drugs



4 in 5 voters in West Virginia support imposing tax penalties to ensure that **all drug companies negotiate affordable prescription drug prices** with Medicare.

**80%**  
West Virginia Voters



## SUPPORT FOR MEDICARE NEGOTIATING DRUG PRICES REMAINS HIGH IN WEST VIRGINIA

### 82% of voters in West Virginia



support requiring drug companies to negotiate with Medicare for lower prescription drugs for all Americans.

### 80% of voters in West Virginia



support imposing tax penalties to ensure that all drug companies negotiate affordable prescription drug prices with Medicare.



**For decades Americans have been promised lower healthcare costs, but these have largely been broken promises. People are frustrated and worried, and more importantly, they are getting sicker and even dying.**

– TIM LASH, CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER WEST HEALTH

## METHODOLOGY

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The findings are from a multi-channel survey of 600 likely general election voters in West Virginia between April 29 - May 4, 2021. Interviews were conducted by live telephone and via web-based panel. Interviews conducted via web-based panel were matched back to a corresponding voter file. The confidence interval overall is +/- 4.0% within each state.

## ABOUT GLOBAL STRATEGY GROUP

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Global Strategy Group is the go-to public affairs, communications, and research partner for companies, causes, and campaigns. We work with our clients to build their reputations, tackle big challenges, drive positive change, and win.

## ABOUT WEST HEALTH

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Solely funded by philanthropists Gary and Mary West, West Health is a family of nonprofit and nonpartisan organizations including the Gary and Mary West Foundation and Gary and Mary West Health Institute in San Diego, and the Gary and Mary West Health Policy Center in Washington, D.C. West Health is dedicated to lowering healthcare costs to enable seniors to successfully age in place with access to high-quality, affordable health and support services that preserve and protect their dignity, quality of life and independence. [Learn more at www.westhealth.org](http://www.westhealth.org) and follow [@westhealth](https://twitter.com/westhealth).