

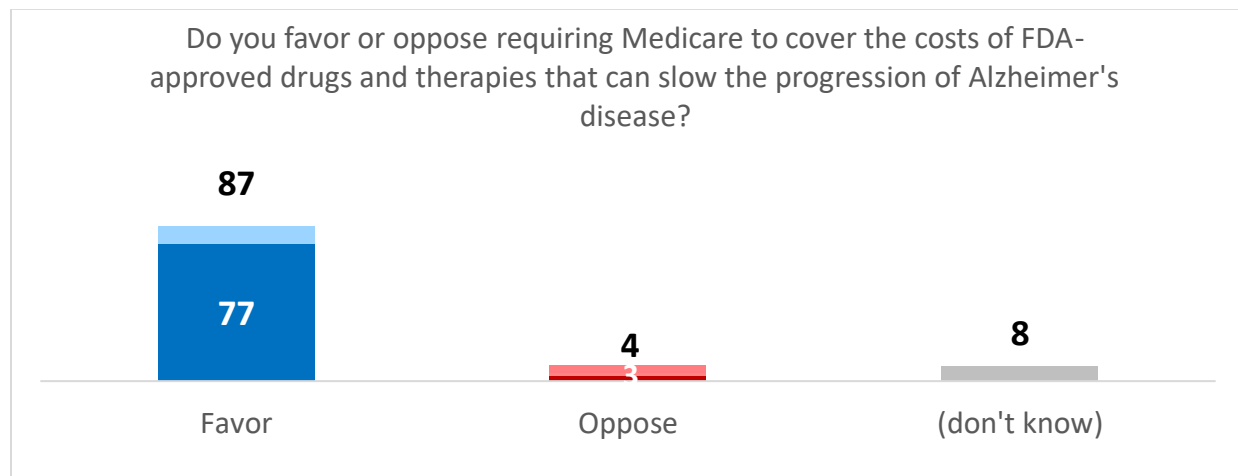
To: The Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer’s Disease (LEAD) Coalition, Alliance for Aging Research, Global Alzheimer’s Platform Foundation, and UsAgainstAlzheimer’s  
 From: Lake Research Partners and Public Opinion Strategies  
 Re: Survey Findings on Requiring Medicare to Cover FDA-approved Drugs and Therapies for Alzheimer’s Disease  
 Date: May 22, 2023

In a recent telephone survey<sup>1</sup> of 1,000 likely 2024 voters conducted to explore attitudes toward requiring Medicare to provide Alzheimer’s patients access to FDA-approved drugs that slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease, **we found strong and consistent support from voters across demographic subgroups to require Medicare to cover the cost of these drugs and therapies. For voters, Medicare should provide access to these FDA-approved medications to all Medicare beneficiaries just as they do for all other diseases.**

**Alzheimer’s disease is a personal issue to many voters**, with half (52%) who have a personal connection to the disease, and the issue **transcends gender, age, race, and partisan lines.**

**Voters want policy action on this issue; they overwhelmingly favor requiring Medicare to cover the costs of FDA-approved drugs and therapies that can slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease.**

Nearly nine in ten voters favor requiring Medicare to cover the costs of FDA-approved drugs and therapies that can slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease, and over three quarters strongly favor this policy. There is little opposition.



■ Strongly favor   
 ■ Not so strongly favor   
 ■ Not so strongly oppose   
 ■ Strongly oppose

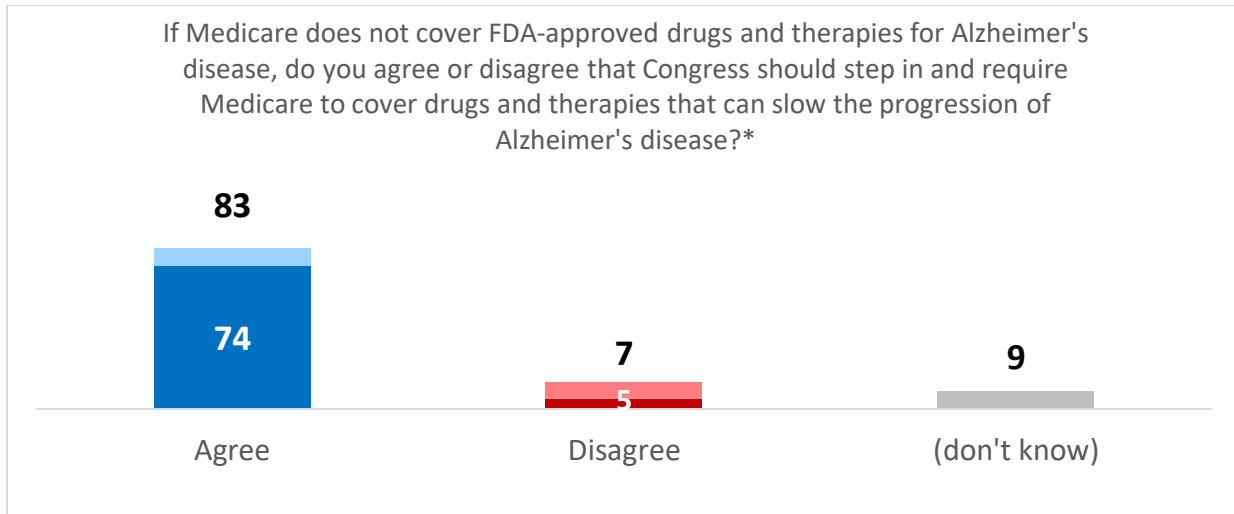
<sup>1</sup> Lake Research Partners and Public Opinion Strategies designed and administered a phone survey of likely 2024 voters that was conducted May 1-7, 2023, using professional telephone interviewers. A portion was also completed online, after part of the sample received a text to their cell phone with a link to complete the survey online. The survey reached a total of 1,275 likely 2024 voters nationwide which includes a base sample of 1,000 likely 2024 voters with oversamples of 100 Black voters, 100 Latinx voters, and 75 voters across AZ, MT, NV, OH, PA, WI, and WV. The oversamples were weighted down into the base sample to their proper proportions of the universe for a total sample size of 1,000. The margin of error is +/- 2.7%.

**There is strong bipartisan consensus on this issue.** Across gender, age, race, party identification, region, 2020 presidential ballot, and connection to Alzheimer’s, at least two thirds of voters strongly favor requiring Medicare to cover the costs of FDA-approved drugs and therapies that can slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease. Notably, there is only a 4-point margin between voters who do not have a connection to Alzheimer’s and voters who do.

Medicare Cover the Costs	Strongly favor	Favor	Net
Men	71	83	+78
Women	<b>82</b>	91	+87
Under 50	71	83	+78
Over 50	<b>83</b>	90	+86
Democrats	<b>85</b>	93	+92
Independent/DK	66	81	+72
Republicans	74	83	+77
White	78	88	+83
Black	78	91	+89
Latinx	79	89	+85
All yes connection to Alzheimer’s	<b>82</b>	88	<b>+85</b>
No connection to Alzheimer’s	72	86	<b>+81</b>
Northeast	78	90	+87
Midwest	74	83	+78
South	78	87	+83
West	77	88	+82
Biden 2020 voters	<b>84</b>	93	+91
Trump 2020 voters	71	81	+75

**If Medicare does not cover FDA-approved drugs and therapies for Alzheimer’s disease, voters want Congress to step in to require they are covered.**

About three quarters of voters strongly agree that Congress should step in and require Medicare to cover drugs and therapies that can slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease, and eight in ten agree overall. Less than one in ten disagree with Congress stepping in.



\*Split sampled

■ Strongly agree    
 ■ Not so strongly agree    
 ■ Not so strongly disagree    
 ■ Strongly disagree

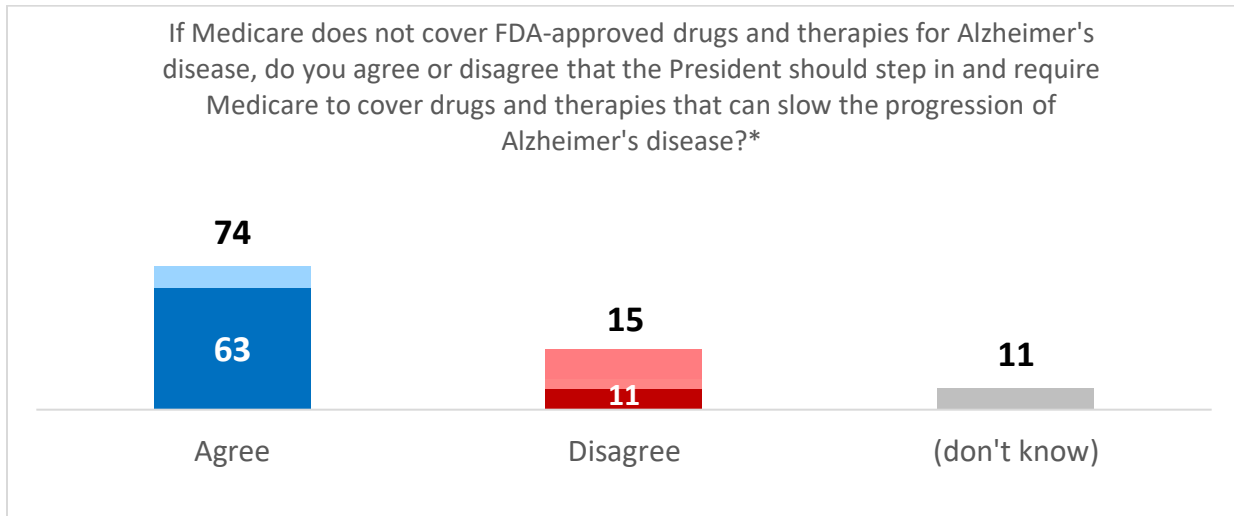
Again, there is strong bipartisan consensus. Across demographic subgroups, at least six in ten voters strongly agree that if Medicare does not cover FDA-approved drugs and therapies for Alzheimer’s disease, Congress should step in and require Medicare to cover drugs and therapies that can slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease.

Congress Should Step In	Strongly agree	Agree
Men	67	80
Women	82	88
Under 50	67	79
Over 50	81	87
Democrats	81	88
Independent/DK	64	81
Republicans	72	80
White	75	83
Black	78	92
Latinx	78	87
All yes connection to Alzheimer’s	73	80
No connection to Alzheimer’s	75	86
Northeast	82	88
Midwest	75	81
South	72	81
West	72	86
Biden 2020 voters	77	86
Trump 2020 voters	71	80

**If Medicare does not cover FDA-approved drugs and therapies for Alzheimer’s disease, voters would also like to see the President take action on this issue.**

About three quarters of voters agree that if Medicare does not cover FDA-approved drugs and therapies for Alzheimer’s disease, the President should step in and require Medicare to cover drugs and therapies

that can slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease, and over six in ten strongly agree the President should step in.



\*Split sampled

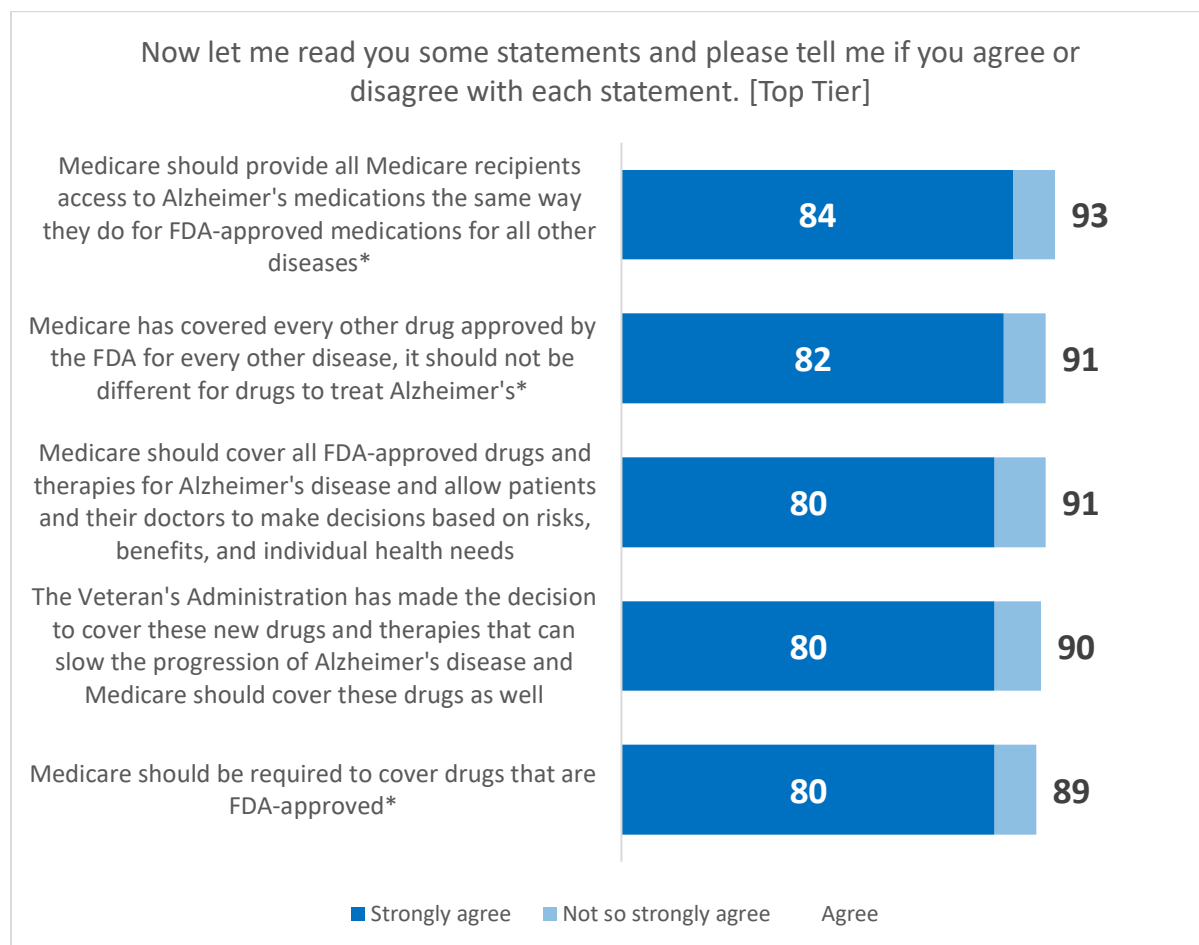
■ Strongly agree    
 ■ Not so strongly agree    
 ■ Not so strongly disagree    
 ■ Strongly disagree

At least half of voters across demographic subgroups strongly agree if Medicare does not cover FDA-approved drugs and therapies for Alzheimer’s disease, the President should step in and require Medicare to cover drugs and therapies that can slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease. Notably, three quarters of Democrats and Biden 2020 voters strongly agree the President should take action on this issue.

The President Should Step In	Strongly agree	Agree
Men	60	69
Women	67	79
Under 50	57	71
Over 50	69	76
Democrats	<b>76</b>	89
Independent/DK	50	62
Republicans	56	63
White	62	72
Black	71	87
Latinx	71	80
All yes connection to Alzheimer’s	68	78
No connection to Alzheimer’s	59	71
Northeast	68	77
Midwest	58	70
South	64	73
West	62	78
Biden 2020 voters	<b>75</b>	86
Trump 2020 voters	52	63

**Solid majorities of voters strongly agree with statements around Medicare covering medications for Alzheimer’s disease, especially ones that focus on the comparison of coverage provided for other FDA-approved medications for other diseases.**

Statements about how Medicare should be covering medications for Alzheimer’s disease test well among voters across partisan lines, with all top tier statements receiving at least 80% strong intense agreement. Rising to the top are statements about how Medicare should provide all of its recipients access to Alzheimer’s medications the same way they do for FDA-approved medications for all other diseases and Medicare has covered every other drug approved by the FDA for every other disease, it should not be different for drugs to treat Alzheimer’s. Agreement with these statements is so broad and intense that they verge on core values for voters. Across race, age, gender, and region, voters strongly agree with the top tier of statements.



\*Split sampled

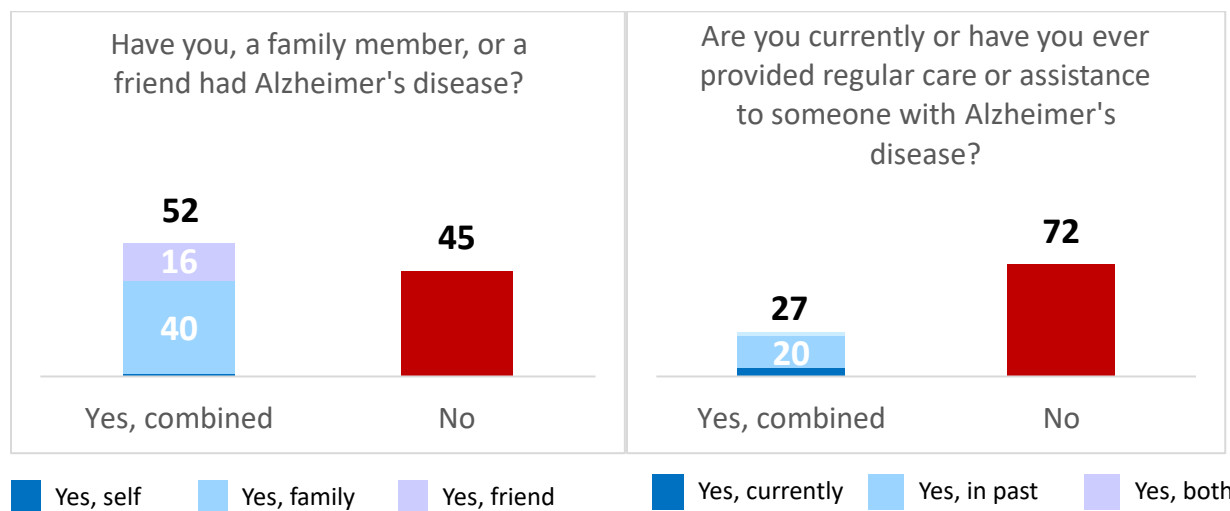
The issue of Medicare coverage of Alzheimer’s medications transcends partisan lines. Democrats, Independents, and Republicans don’t just agree with these statements; by overwhelming numbers, they **strongly agree**.

% Strongly agree (% agree)	Democrats	Indep/DK	Republicans
Medicare should provide all Medicare recipients access to Alzheimer's medications the same way they do for FDA-approved medications for all other diseases*	89 (97)	75 (88)	83 (91)
Medicare has covered every other drug approved by the FDA for every other disease, it should not be different for drugs to treat Alzheimer's*	86 (95)	74 (84)	80 (90)
Medicare should cover all FDA-approved drugs and therapies for Alzheimer's disease and allow patients and their doctors to make decisions based on risks, benefits, and individual health needs	87 (96)	71 (84)	76 (89)
The Veteran's Administration has made the decision to cover these new drugs and therapies that can slow the progression of Alzheimer's disease and Medicare should cover these drugs as well	87 (96)	71 (83)	77 (88)
Medicare should be required to cover drugs that are FDA-approved*	87 (97)	72 (82)	76 (84)

\*Split sampled

**This issue resonates with voters because it is personal to them.**

Half of voters say either themselves, a family member, or a friend has had Alzheimer’s disease. Voters are most likely to say it has been in their family, with four in ten saying a family member has had Alzheimer’s disease. A quarter of voters are currently or have been a caregiver in the past to someone with Alzheimer’s disease.



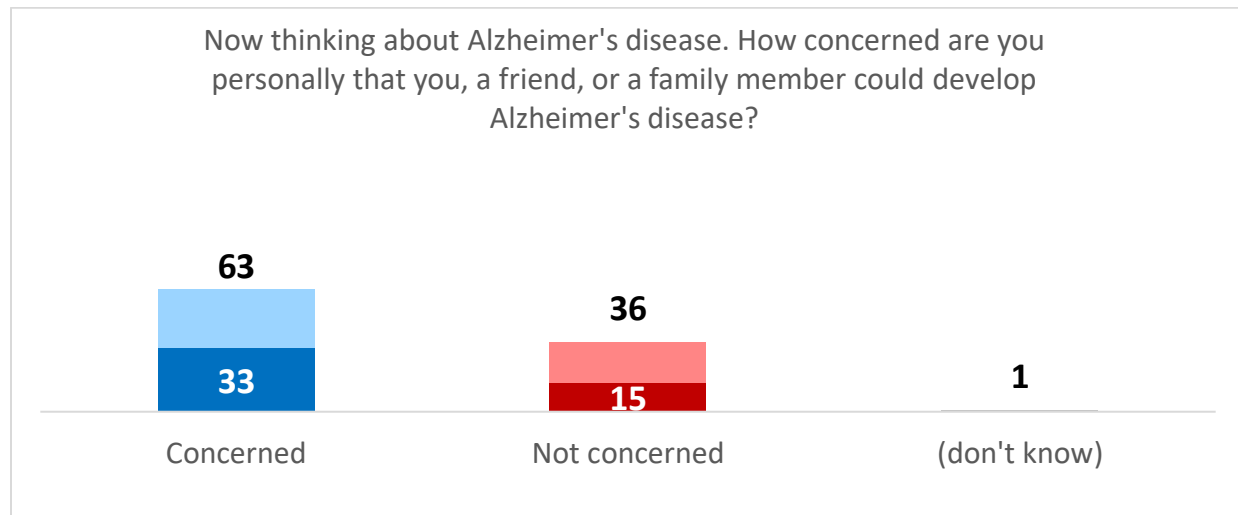
The connection to this issue crosses gender, age, race, and partisan lines. A plurality of men and women, younger and older voters, Independents and Republicans, and white and Black voters say either themselves, a family member, or friend has had Alzheimer’s disease. Three in ten women, older voters, Republicans, and Black and Latinx voters say they are currently or have been a caregiver in the past to someone with Alzheimer’s disease. Notably, a quarter of younger voters say they are or have been a caregiver.

Connection to Alzheimer's	Yes	No
Men	<u>51</u>	46
Women	<u>53</u>	43
Under 50	<u>50</u>	47
Over 50	<u>54</u>	42
Democrats	46	50
Independent/DK	<u>50</u>	45
Republicans	<u>59</u>	39
White	<u>55</u>	42
Black	<u>49</u>	46
Latinx	40	59

Caregiver for Alzheimer's	Yes	No
Men	24	75
Women	<u>30</u>	69
Under 50	<u>25</u>	75
Over 50	<u>29</u>	69
Democrats	24	76
Independent/DK	26	70
Republicans	<u>31</u>	68
White	26	73
Black	<u>29</u>	70
Latinx	<u>30</u>	69

**A majority of voters are personally concerned that themselves, a friend, or a family member could develop Alzheimer's disease.**

One third say they are personally very concerned that themselves, a friend, or a family member could develop Alzheimer's disease, slightly over six in ten voters are concerned.



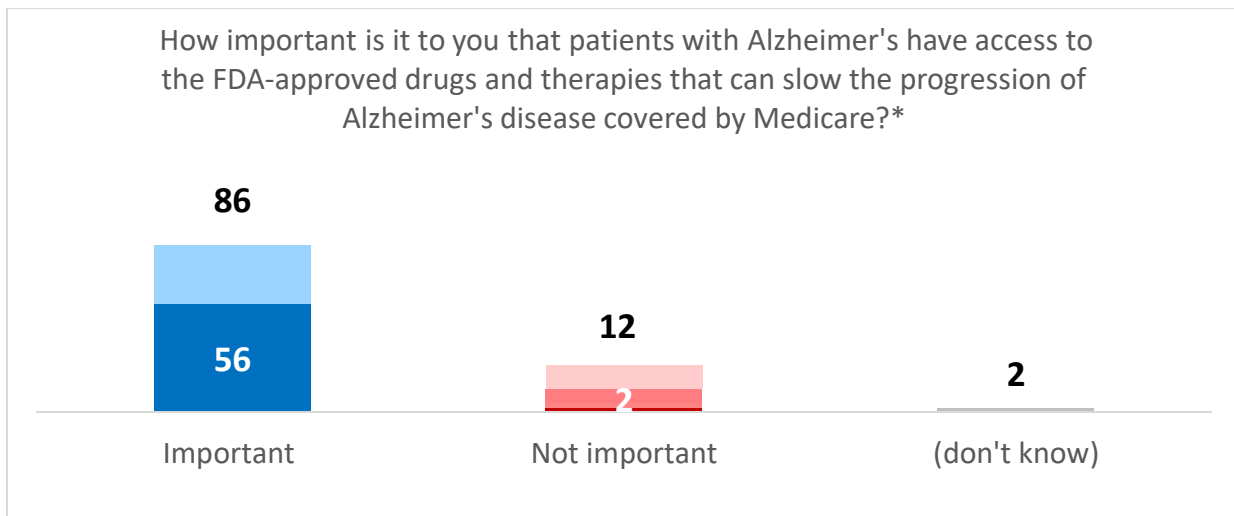
■ Very concerned   
 ■ Somewhat concerned   
 ■ A little concerned   
 ■ Not concerned at all

Across gender, age, race, party identification, and connection to Alzheimer's, voters are concerned about themselves or those close to them developing Alzheimer's disease. Seven in ten Democrats, Latinx voters, and voters with a connection to someone with the disease are concerned. Having a connection to someone with the disease is more of an indication that they will be concerned about themselves or someone close to them developing the disease than someone who does not have a connection to someone with the disease (although a majority of those with no connection still express concern).

Concern about Alzheimer’s	Very concerned	Concerned
Men	28	62
Women	36	65
Under 50	28	62
Over 50	37	64
Democrats	39	<b>71</b>
Independent/DK	25	58
Republicans	29	57
White	31	62
Black	38	68
Latinx	42	<b>70</b>
All yes connection to Alzheimer’s	39	<b>70</b>
No connection to Alzheimer’s	25	56

**Voters say it is important that patients have access to FDA-approved drugs and therapies that can slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease covered by Medicare.**

A strong majority of voters think it is extremely important that patients with Alzheimer’s have access to the FDA-approved drugs and therapies that can slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease covered by Medicare and over four in five think it is important overall. Virtually no one thinks access and coverage to these medications for patients with Alzheimer’s through Medicare is not important at all to have covered by Medicare.



\*Split sampled



Strong majorities of voters across gender, age, race, party identification, and connection to Alzheimer’s think it is important for patients with Alzheimer’s to have access to the FDA-approved drugs and therapies that can slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease covered by Medicare. Voters with a connection to Alzheimer’s, women, older voters, Democrats, and Black voters are most likely to think it is extremely important to provide access to these patients.

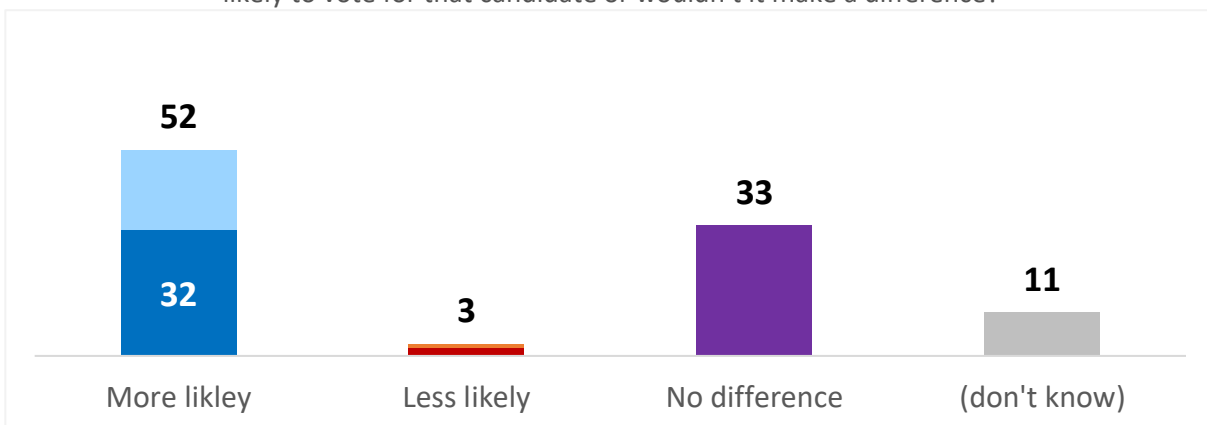


Important Patients Have Access	Extremely important	Important
Men	51	86
Women	<b>62</b>	87
Under 50	53	84
Over 50	<b>60</b>	89
Democrats	<b>63</b>	95
Independent/DK	43	73
Republicans	55	83
White	59	86
Black	<b>64</b>	90
Latinx	45	92
All yes connection to Alzheimer’s	<b>62</b>	90
No connection to Alzheimer’s	49	83

**Voters are apt to reward a candidate for their support on this issue.**

If a candidate for elected office supported requiring Medicare to cover FDA-approved drugs and therapies that can slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease, half of voters say it would make them more likely to vote for that candidate, and about one third say it would make them much more likely. One third say it would make no difference and importantly no one says it would make them less likely to vote for that candidate.

If a candidate for elected office supported requiring Medicare to cover FDA-approved drugs and therapies that can slow the progression of Alzheimer's disease, would that make you more or less likely to vote for that candidate or wouldn't it make a difference?



\*Split sampled

■ Much more likely   
 ■ Somewhat more likely   
 ■ Somewhat less likely   
 ■ Much less likely

**This issue can mobilize voters and persuade young voters.** Nearly half of voters across demographic subgroups say they would be more likely to support a candidate who supports requiring Medicare to cover FDA-approved drugs and therapies. Among Republicans and Trump 2020 voters, a third say it would make them more likely and a plurality say it would make no difference to their vote. Latinx voters, Black voters, and Democrats are most likely to say they would be much more likely to vote for a candidate with this position.

Likely to Vote for a Candidate	Much more likely	More likely	No difference
Men	30	56	33
Women	34	50	33
Under 50	28	49	35
Over 50	36	56	32
Democrats	<u>44</u>	68	21
Independent/DK	33	47	<u>40</u>
Republicans	19	37	<u>44</u>
White	30	51	34
Black	<u>44</u>	60	23
Latinx	<u>49</u>	61	27
All yes connection to Alzheimer's	26	48	35
No connection to Alzheimer's	39	58	31
Northeast	31	50	<u>41</u>
Midwest	33	52	33
South	29	50	34
West	36	58	25
Biden 2020 voters	39	63	28
Trump 2020 voters	21	37	<u>42</u>