

Memorandum

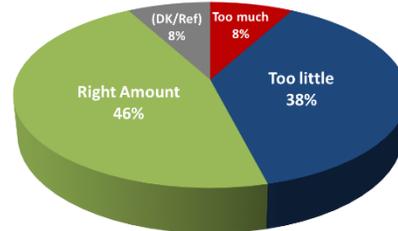
Date: December 1, 2017
 To: Interested Parties
 From: Myers Research | Strategic Services

Nebraskans Support Investments in Education and Health Care

According to the results of our recent survey¹, Nebraskans firmly believe that education and health care should continue to be funded at their current level or better funded than they are currently, and they broadly support further investments, especially when it comes to children’s health services, Medicaid, child care, and afterschool programs. They also firmly believe that workers should be able to earn paid sick and family leave.

As the graph outlines, 38 percent of Nebraskans believe that the state spends too little on education while 46 percent say it spends the right amount. Just 8 percent believe the state spends too much on education funding. Notably, 4-in-10 women (40 percent) and voters without a college degree (42 percent) say the state spends too little on education. These trends are driven by those with children under the age of 18, in particular, as 65 percent of Moms and a majority of Dads (50 percent) believe Nebraska spends too little on education funding, those likely to be most impacted by it given their everyday experience.

Near Majority Believe the State Spends the Right Amount on Education Funding, Though 4-in-10 Say It Spends Too Little

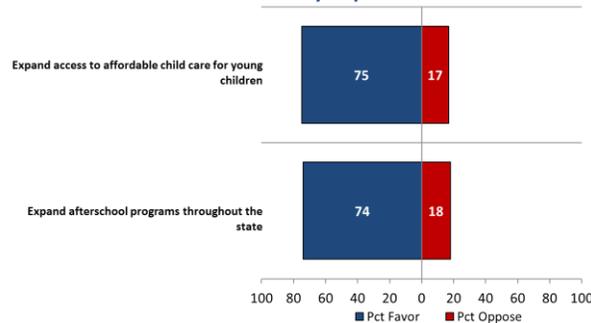


Q.72 Finally, thinking about public schools in Nebraska, when it comes to public education funding, do you think the state spends too much, too little, or does it spend just the right amount on public schools?

The focus on education runs the gamut from early childhood to community college and technical and vocational training, and Nebraskans clearly view education as a link to economic prosperity. Those that affect younger children though are some of the most popular, particularly expanding access to affordable child care and expanding afterschool programs. Not surprisingly, parents nearly universally favor this expansion and are some of its strongest proponents. Moms of children under age 18 nearly all support them (92 percent favor expanding access to child care and expanding afterschool).

¹ These findings are based on a survey of 600 likely November 2018 voters in Nebraska. Calling took place from November 2-6, 2017, and interviews were conducted by professional interviewers supervised by Myers Research | Strategic Services staff. Thirty-nine percent of the interviews were conducted on cell phones. The data were stratified to reflect the projected geographical contribution to the total expected vote. The margin of error associated with these data at a 95 in 100 percent confidence level is +/- 4.0 percent. The margin of error for subgroups is greater and varies.

Affordable Child Care and Afterschool Programs Prove Tremendously Popular

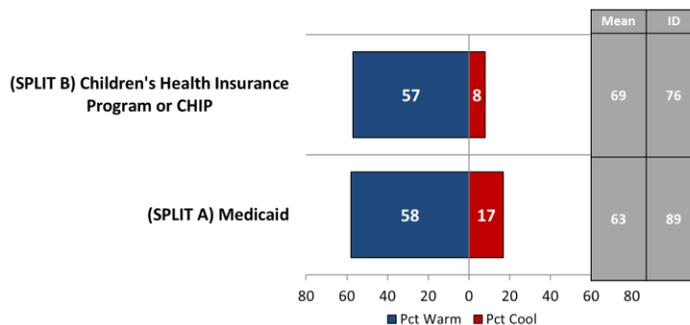


Qs. 59-71 Now, let me read you a list of proposals that may help to build a stronger middle class in Nebraska. For each, please tell me whether you favor or oppose that proposal.

Overall, 6-in-10 Nebraskans (60 percent) believe afterschool programs should be the largest or a major focus of investment in the state budget. Just 7 percent say they should not be a focus at all. A majority of all partisans - registered Democrats (69 percent largest/major focus), registered Republicans (53 percent largest/major focus), and those not registered with either major party (76 percent largest/major focus) all believe afterschool programs should have a portion of the state budget directed to them.

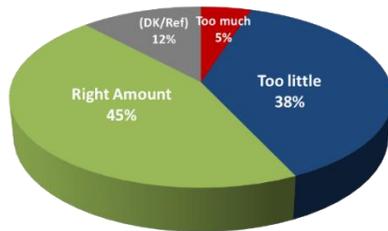
The Children’s Health Insurance Program, or CHIP, is met with broad favorability as is Medicaid, as detailed in the graph. Most importantly, registered Republicans give CHIP exceptionally strong reviews (66-degrees; 51 percent warm to 9 percent cool) and give Medicaid positive ratings as well (57-degrees; 48 percent warm to 23 percent cool). There is no audience that gives either negative ratings, and it is abundantly clear that views on health care have shifted dramatically in the past few years, as we have seen nationally.

Both CHIP and Medicaid Earn Solid Reviews



Qs. 12/13 Give Medicaid/CHIP a rating, with 100 meaning a very warm, favorable feeling; zero meaning a very cold, unfavorable feeling; and 50 meaning not particularly warm or cold.

Four-in-Ten Say the State Spends Too Little on Children’s Health Care

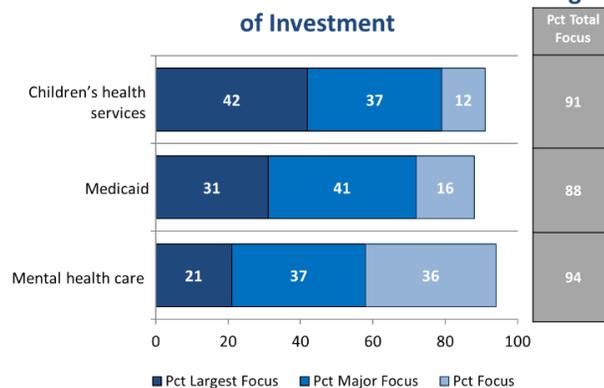


Q.73 And when it comes to children’s health care funding, do you think the state spends too much, too little, or does it spend just the right amount on children’s health care?

Forty-five percent say the state spends the right amount on children’s health care while 38 percent say it spends too little. Women over age 50 (45 percent), blue collar voters (41 percent), especially younger blue collar voters (45 percent), and Dads (40 percent) are the most likely to mention that the state spends too little on health care for children.

When asked more specially about the focus of investment for health care, services for children dominate, with 4-in-10 citing it as something that should be the largest focus of investment for Nebraska. The focus of investment spikes among younger audiences, with 58 percent of those under age 40 mentioning that it should be the largest focus of investment. Investments in Medicaid and mental health are also universally supported by all partisans and those in all geographic regions of the state.

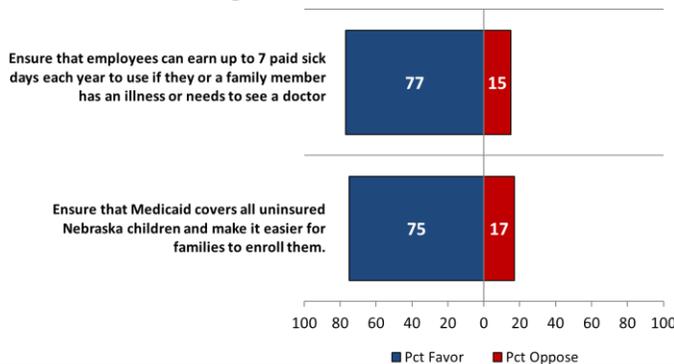
Health Services for Kids and the Neediest Should Be Largest Focus of Investment



Qs. 74-82 Now, I’m going to read you a list of different areas of education and health care. For each, please tell me whether that should be the largest focus of investment, a major focus, a focus, or not much of a focus of investment in the state budget.

Additionally, support for expanding paid family leave and making sure that Medicaid covers all uninsured children is broad and deep, with three quarters of Nebraskans favoring these proposals (33 percent **strongly** favor expanding paid leave, 35 percent **strongly** favor ensuring Medicaid covers all children).

Three Quarters of Nebraskans Favor Expanding Paid Family Leave and Ensuring Medicaid Covers All Children



Qs. 59-71 Now, let me read you a list of proposals that may help to build a stronger middle class in Nebraska. For each, please tell me whether you favor or oppose that proposal.

Those in the Sioux City/Omaha (38 strongly favor, 72 total favor), Lancaster (38 percent strongly favor, 87 percent total favor), and Western Spill (37 percent strongly favor, 81 percent total favor) Media Markets are the most likely to support expanding paid leave while those in Sioux City/Omaha (37 percent strongly favor, 72 percent total favor) and Lancaster (44 percent strongly favor, 86 percent total favor) show the most support for ensuring that Medicaid covers all children.