

About the Pulse Poll

The Colorado Health Foundation believes in listening first, and that's why we've created an annual poll to hear the perspectives of adults from across the state. From affordable housing and food access to mental health and child care, our poll takes the pulse of Coloradans on a range of important health issues this year and every year – to inform policy far into the future.

Learn more about
The Colorado Health
Foundation's Pulse Poll:



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Poll Snapshot: Health Care Access & Challenges

While most Coloradans report positive experiences with the healthcare system, rising costs are making it increasingly difficult for many families to access and afford the care they need. Healthcare costs have been a significant problem over the course of the Pulse Poll, but concern has risen compared to prior years with costs rising fast and hitting families harder.

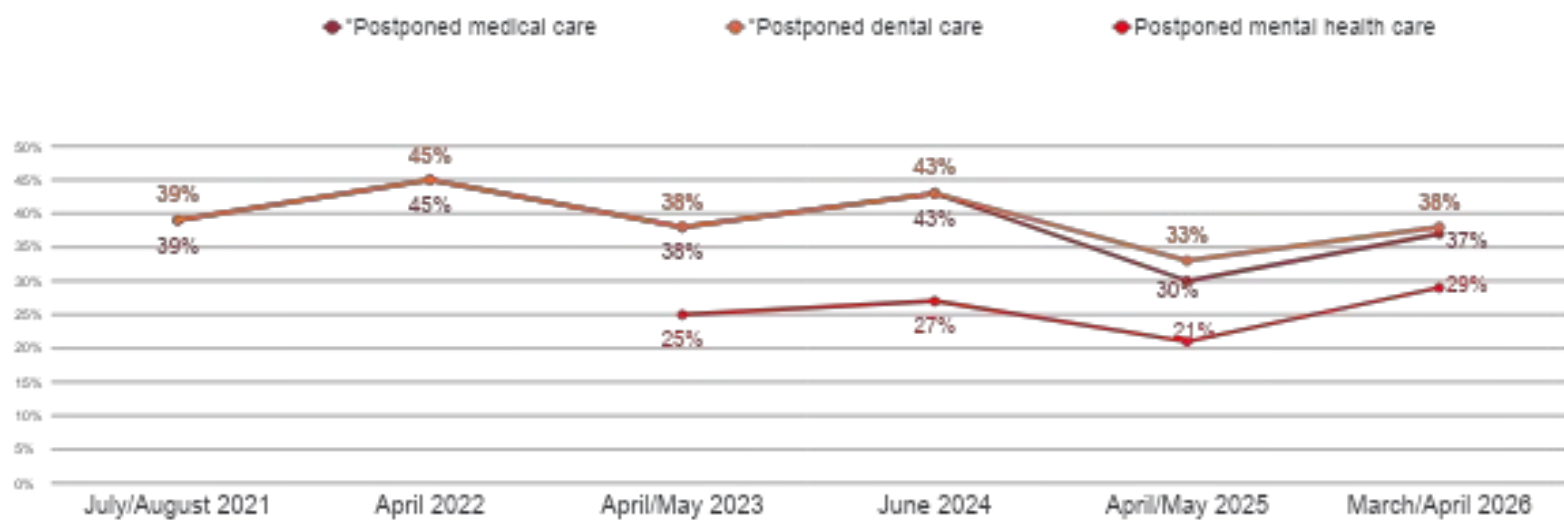
- **82% of respondents said the cost of healthcare is a serious problem** - a figure that has grown consistently from 65% of respondents in 2021.
- While many Coloradans are satisfied with many aspects of their health care, **three in five are dissatisfied with health care costs.**
- **Two in five Coloradans have delayed medical or care in the last year.** A similar number has delayed dental care.
- **42% are worried that they or someone in their household will be without coverage in the coming year.** Now at its highest proportion of Coloradans recorded in the seven year history of Pulse Poll, the concern has grown significantly from the 27% in 2020.

Relative to 2025, concern about losing care has increased among Latino Coloradans the most.

Demographic Group	2021	2025	2026	Difference (2025-2026)
Asian/Pacific Islander	34%	37%	33%	-4%
Black/African American	22%	55%	57%	+2%
Hispanic/Latino	41%	42%	53%	+11%
American Indian/Alaska Native	42%	61%	57%	-4%
White	22%	33%	36%	+3%

Pulse Poll Snapshot: Colorado's Challenges

The percentage of Coloradans who delayed health or dental care was on the rise over the last year.



“Coloradans are telling us something important: they generally value the care they receive, but the cost of that care is becoming increasingly difficult to manage. When families are worried about losing coverage, delaying treatment, or struggling to afford deductibles and co-pays, **affordability becomes just as important as access.**”

-[Need to identify someone]

Coloradans express satisfaction when it comes to many aspects of their health care.

Health care topic	% Satisfied
How far they need to travel to see a health care provider	77%
The quality of the care received	75%
Attitudes of health care providers/medical staff toward you/your family	74%
The ability to see a provider whenever you need	64%
The amount of time required to wait to see a provider when seeking an appointment	50%