PNHP Backgrounder: Recent Public Polls on Single Payer

**AP/Yahoo (December 14-20, 2007)**

1,821 adults

**Which comes closest to your view?**

34% - The United States should continue the current health insurance system in which most people get their health insurance from private employers, but some people have no insurance

65% - The United States should adopt a universal health insurance program in which everyone is covered under a program like Medicare that is run by the government and financed by taxpayers

2% - Refused / Not Answered

**CNN / Opinion Research (May 4-6, 2007)**

1,028 American Adults

“Do you think the government should provide a national health insurance program for all Americans, even if this would require higher taxes?”
New York Times / CBS News (March 1, 2007)

1,281 American Adults

“Do you think the federal government should guarantee health insurance for all Americans, or isn’t this the responsibility of the federal government?”

Harvard School of Public Health/Harris Interactive (February 14, 2008)

2,038 Adults

“So far as you understand the phrase, do you think that if we had socialized medicine in this country that the health care system would be better or worse than what we have now?”

45% - “Better”
39% - “Worse”

(Historically, the phrase “socialized medicine” has been used to attack health reform proposals in the U.S.)