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**Ekos Research Associates Inc.**  
**Les Associés de recherche Ekos inc.**

**HEALTH CARE ISSUES  
TRACKING SURVEY**  
**Survey Findings**

December 7, 1998

# Methodology

- **National random sample of 1,200 interviews conducted December 1 to 6, 1998**
  - ✓ Pan-Canadian results accurate to within +/- 2.8 percentage points at a confidence level of 95 per cent
  - ✓ Statistical error margins larger for regions and other sub-groups
- **Tracking data from *Rethinking Government* study**

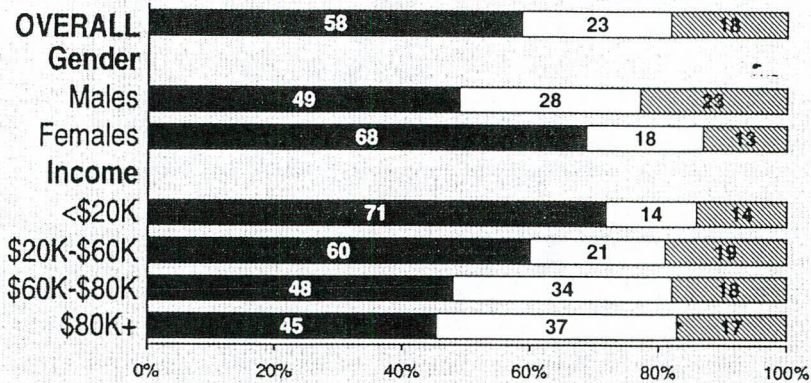


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# Emphasis for Budget

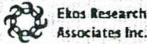
Q1

"In planning its budget for next year, which of the following do you think the Government of Canada should put the most emphasis on?"



■ Investing in social programs like health and education\* □ Paying down national debt ▨ Tax cut for all Canadians

\* Positively correlated with support for integration and report card



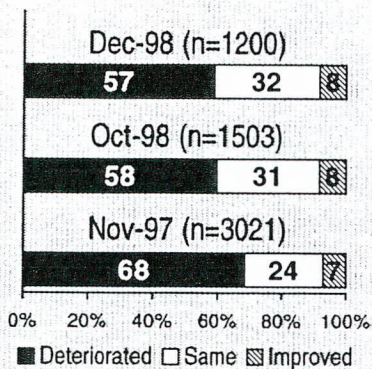
n=1503

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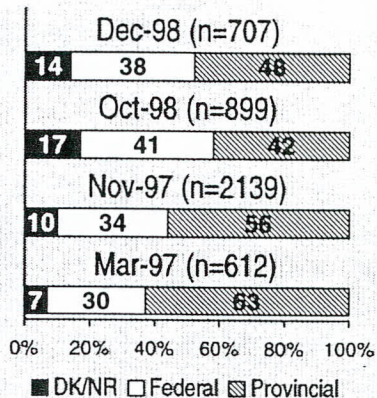


# Perceptions of the Health Care System

Q2 "Has the quality of health care over the past two years improved, deteriorated, or stayed the same?"



Q3 "Which level of government is most responsible for the deterioration?"

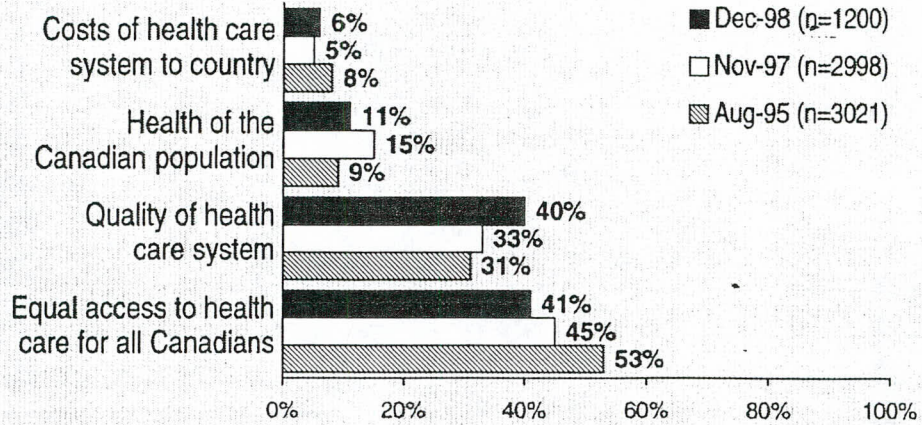


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Rethinking Government & Health Canada Survey

# Importance of Aspects of Health Care

04 "Which of the following aspects of health care is of greatest importance to you?"



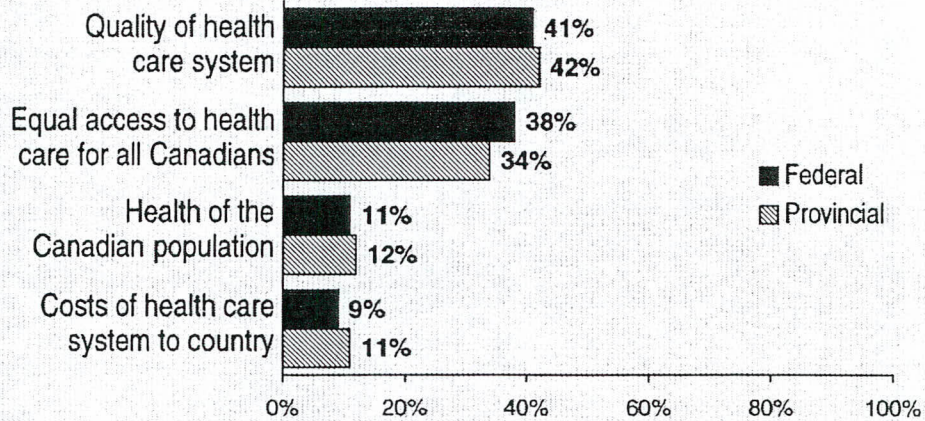
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# Priority for Governments

Q5

“And which do you think the federal/provincial government should place the highest priority on?”



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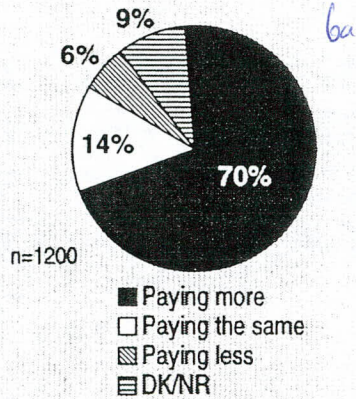
n=1200 (split sample)

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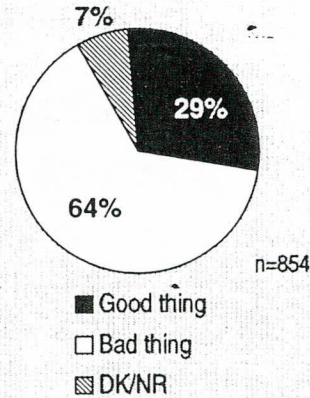


# Share of Health Care Costs

“Over the past few years, are individual citizens are paying an increasing or decreasing share of the total cost of health care in Canada?”



[IF PAYING MORE:] “Is it a good thing or a bad thing?”



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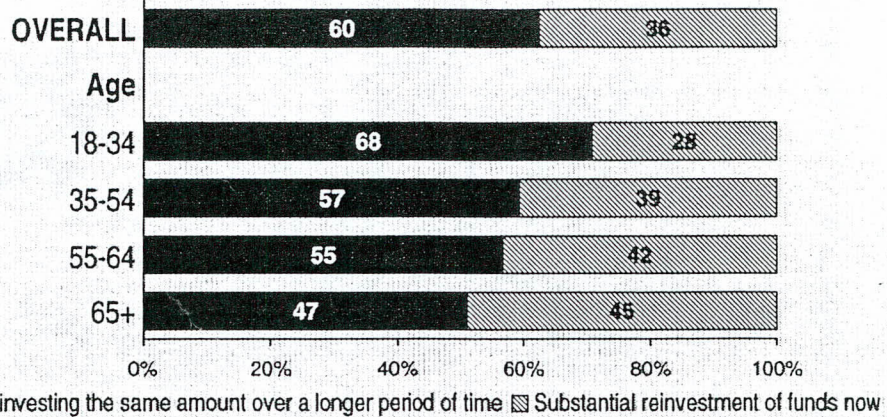
## Full question wording:

*Q6a*

As you may know, some of the cost of health care in Canada is paid for by governments, such as regular trips to the doctor while other costs are paid for by individual citizens or other private sources, such as physiotherapy bills and some drug costs. Would you say that over the past few years, individual citizens are paying an increasing or decreasing share of the total cost of health care in Canada?

# Preferences for Pace of Funding

“Is there a need for ...?”



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n=1200

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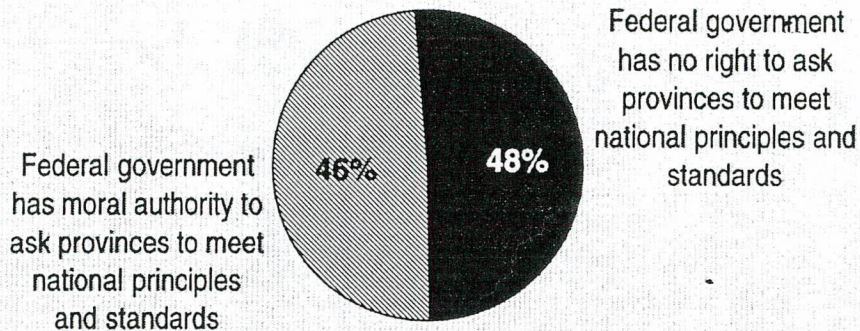
## Full question wording:

As you may also know, the federal government and many provincial governments are talking about re investing money in the health care system. In your view, is there a need for a substantial reinvestment of funds in the system right now to fix pressing issues, or would it be better for governments to reinvest the same amount of money over a longer period of time to ensure stability of funding?



# Principles and Standards

7 "Which statement is closest to your point of view?"



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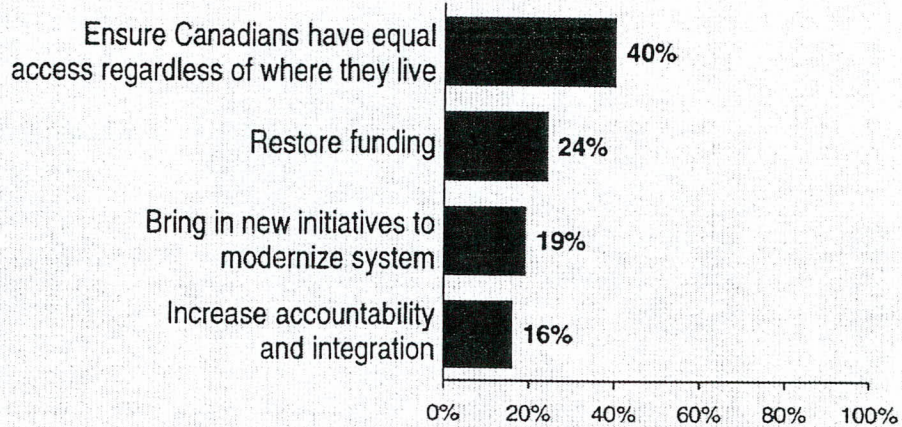
## Full question wording:

Because the federal government has made large cuts to Medicare funding, it really has no right to ask the provinces to meet national principles and standards in the health care field.

The federal government had a moral authority from the Canadian public to ask the provinces to meet national principles and standards for health care regardless of how much funding it contributes.

# Federal Actions for Health Care

“Which would be most effective for the federal government to maintain a quality national health care system?”



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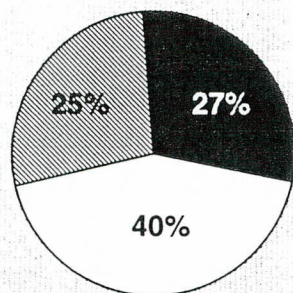
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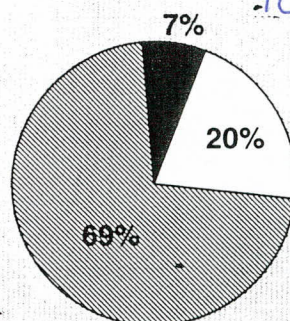


## Access to New Elements

9  
“To what extent do Canadians have equal access to services like home care?”



10  
“To what extent should the federal government ensure equal access to these services?”



■ Little extent  
□ Moderate extent  
▨ Great extent

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### Full question wording:

9 Many elements of the health care system, like home care and community services, are moving outside of the traditional focus on hospitals and doctors' offices. To what extent do you think Canadians have equal access to services like home care regardless of where they live or how much money they have?

10 And to what extent do you think the federal government should ensure equal access to these services for all Canadians?