

BE INFORMED: A HEALTH POLICY VOTER GUIDE

FOR UTAHNS



Introduction

As Utah and the country approach another election, many important issues are being debated. While economic issues are top of mind for many voters, healthcare issues are also an important concern. Questions over the role of the Affordable Care Act, abortion, affordability, and other healthcare issues are front of mind for many voters, in Utah and around the country. This infographic helps by comparing the positions of the Harris and Trump campaigns on healthcare.

Kamala Harris/Tim Walz (Democratic)

- During the COVID-19 pandemic, Vice President Kamala Harris pushed for vaccine distribution and assistance of healthcare workers.
- Vice President Harris wants to continue providing help with Marketplace premium subsidies and defended the Affordable Care Act (ACA) during a debate.
- Under the Biden-Harris Administration, insulin costs went down to \$35 a month for Medicare recipients and out-of-pocket drug costs for seniors will be cut to \$2,000 a year in 2025.
- Vice President Harris aims to build on the Biden-Harris Administration's efforts to improve the Affordable Care Act. In addition, she would likely work on expanding Medicaid services and simplifying the enrollment process.
- In 2022, the Biden-Harris Administration made it easier to enroll in Medicaid and CHIP, which helped reduce differences in policies that could hurt certain groups, like people with disabilities.

- A Harris-Walz administration would support legislation to reinstate Roe v. Wade, which protects the right to have an abortion, and would be dedicated to advocating for reproductive rights.
- The Biden Administration increased Marketplace Advanced Premium Tax Credits (APTCs) so more families can afford health insurance, allowing some to get silver plans for \$0 in monthly premiums. This program is expected to end in 2025, but Vice President Harris would likely support extending it if she becomes president.
- Vice President Harris wants to increase funding and support for mental health services.

Donald Trump/JD Vance (Republican)

- During former President Donald Trump's presidency from 2016 to 2020, his policy on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) involved multiple efforts to dismantle it. These included attempts to repeal the ACA, reducing the individual mandate penalty to zero, cutting cost-sharing subsidies, and slashing funding for ACA outreach and enrollment efforts.
- While former President Trump takes credit for appointing the three Supreme Court justices responsible for overturning Roe v. Wade, he has adjusted his stance on abortion multiple times. President Trump has refrained from backing a federal abortion ban, instead leaving the issue to the states. During the September presidential debate, he made false claims that some states "execute babies after birth" and suggested he might consider signing a nationwide abortion ban if reelected.
- President Trump opposed late-term abortion while stating he supports policies that advance prenatal care, access to birth control, and fertility treatments (IVF).
- President Trump aims to address healthcare and prescription drug costs by promoting choice and competition and expanding access to affordable options.
- Republicans state they are committed to protecting Social Security by restoring economic stability to ensure its long-term sustainability.
- Senator JD Vance suggested moving high-risk individuals to different insurance pools, in an attempt to provide more specialized health insurance for individuals who have more complex health conditions. "High-risk" pools can come with higher costs and exclusions for pre-existing conditions.