Quality, affordability, and convenience are driving factors in employees’ preference of ESI compared to government provided health coverage. Specifically, 76% of respondents agree that the quality of the coverage they receive through their employer is better than the quality of plans offered on the open market and 83% of respondents believe their ESI plan is more affordable. In addition, an overwhelming 95% of respondents believe employer-sponsored health plans are more convenient than looking for coverage in the open market. This is consistent across income demographics and political affiliation.
Employees Value Health Insurance Over Other Benefits

The poll found that the American workforce ranks health insurance as the most important benefit that employers have to offer, with other benefits such as retirement savings, paid time off, and life insurance ranked significantly less important to employees.

When asked to describe the importance of each benefit, 83% of respondents ranked health insurance as being "extremely important" to them, indicating that Americans overwhelmingly prioritize health insurance over other benefits.

Additionally, 93% of respondents said they are satisfied with their current ESI plan and 91% agree their plan allows them to visit the doctor of their choice.

Affordability and Quality Care Are the Most Important Features to American Workers

Americans continue to value ESI over other benefits because of its affordability and high-quality services. A strong majority – 87% – of employees value the affordability of their plans, including 86% of low-income respondents. Even further, when asked to describe their ESI coverage, the response was overwhelmingly positive with respondents choosing “affordability” and “high-quality” as their top descriptions.

The perceptions indicated in this poll confirm that employer-sponsored insurance is not only the most desired type of health coverage, but that ESI also plays a valuable role in the everyday lives of the American workforce. See the full findings of the survey here. The national poll surveyed 2,334 people with employer-sponsored health insurance.