



**Winnipeg  
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RESEARCH INC.

# Views on Health Care Reforms

## Summer 2017 Probe Online Omnibus Report

The survey was designed by Probe Research Inc. in consultation with the *Winnipeg Free Press*. The online survey was programmed and hosted by Probe Research using a web-based survey platform. A total of 1,032 Manitoba adults completed the survey between Aug. 8 and Aug. 20, 2017.

Because an online survey is a sample of convenience, no margin-of-error can be ascribed. However, a random and representative non-convenience sample of 1,032 adults would have a margin of error of  $\pm 3.1$  percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

Minor statistical weighting was conducted to ensure that the sample of respondents closely reflects known demographic characteristics of the entire adult population of Manitoba.

For more information on this research project, please contact:

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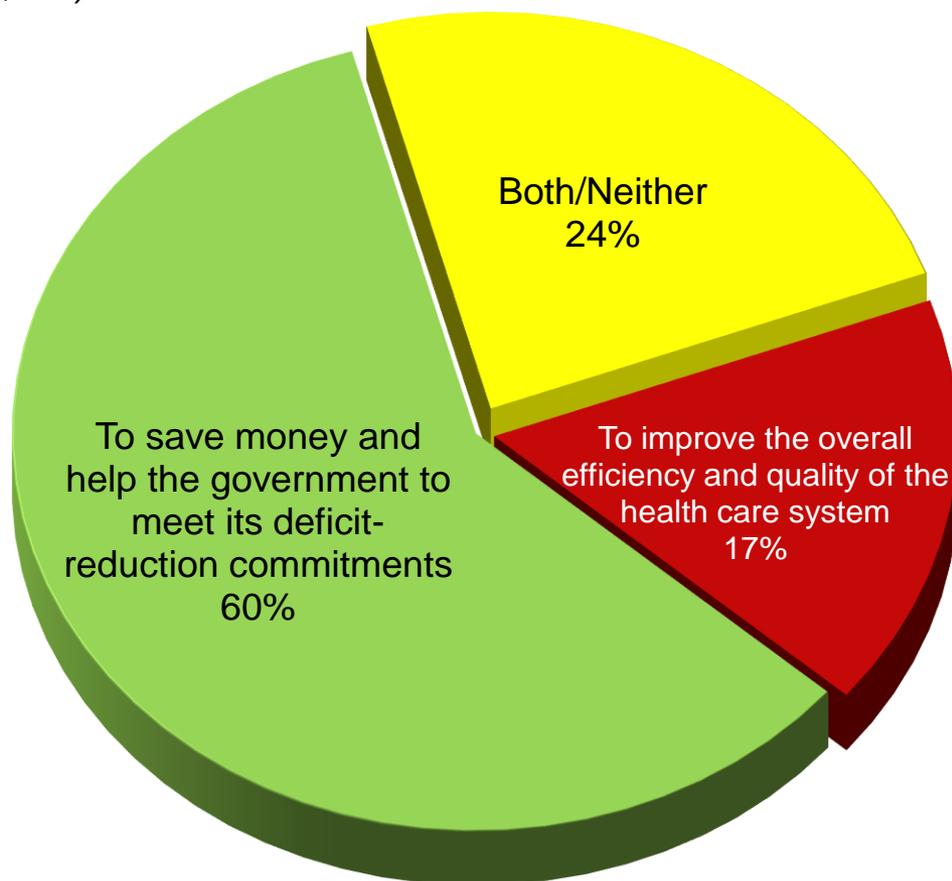
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# Key Findings

- Manitobans are deeply skeptical about the health care reforms launched by the Pallister government. A majority – 60% – believe the changes are designed to reduce spending and trim the deficit instead of improving health care overall. Two-thirds of Manitoba adults believe health services will be worse as a result of the reforms.
- Women are particularly concerned about the changes. Only 13 per cent believe the reforms are meant to improve health care quality. Instead, nearly two-thirds of women – 63% – believe the reforms are intended to curb government spending. Nearly one-half of female respondents – 45% – said the reforms will make health care services **much** worse.
- As expected, Progressive Conservative supporters are more likely to support Premier Brian Pallister’s reforms. However, this support is muted. Nearly one-half of PC supporters – 46% – believe the health care reforms will result in worse health care for Manitobans, while 42 per cent believe care will improve. Additionally, 43 per cent of PC supporters agree the reforms are designed to save the government money, while only 28 per cent believe the reforms are meant to improve the health care system.

# Views on Rationale for Health Care Changes

**Q.1** “As you may know, the Manitoba government has been making a number of changes to the province’s health care system, including closing three Winnipeg emergency rooms. Based on whatever you may have seen, read or heard about these changes, what do you think is the main reason the government is making these changes? Is it...?” (n=1,032)



Most likely to agree health care reform is meant to improve the system:

- Men (21%) vs. women (13%)
- Younger adults 18-34 (25%) vs. those 35-54 (13%) and those 55+ (14%)
- Provincial PC supporters (28%) vs. NDP supporters (4%)

# Views on Outcome of Health Care Changes

**Q.2** “And do you think these changes to Manitoba’s health care system will result in better or worse health care services for Manitobans overall?” (n=1,032)

