

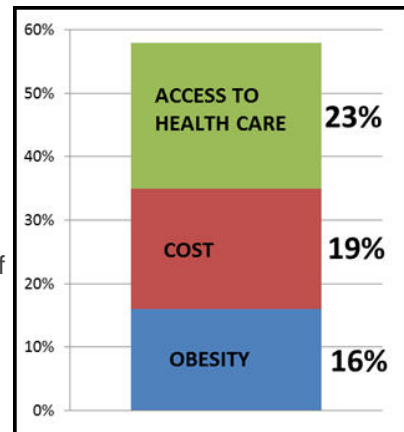


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## Access to Care is Top Concern of Americans

According to a new poll from Gallup, Americans say healthcare access is the nation's most urgent health problem. That's followed closely by the cost of healthcare and obesity.

About a quarter (23 percent) cited access to healthcare as the most urgent health problem, while 19 percent said cost and 16 percent said obesity were the biggest problems. The number of people citing obesity is at an all-time high. In 1999, just 1 percent of Americans cited obesity.



Increasing concerns about obesity mirror the rising rate of the health issue in the United States. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the percentage of adults who are obese doubled from 1980 to 2008. As of the third quarter of 2012, Gallup and Healthways found 26 percent of the American population to be obese. While this figure is high, the top concerns among Americans remain both access to healthcare and its cost, despite the efforts of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act which aims to address both of these problems.

Should you wish to discuss your concerns about these issues and how they affect your Employee Benefits plan, please call your Conner Strong & Buckelew account representative.



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