## Voters views on access to emergency care in rural America emergency care <br> 

## Rural health care continues to be rated poorly

Health Care Quality Ratings (Among Nationwide Voters, Emphasis Added)

The quality of health care in the United
States
Excellent

The quality of health care in remote or rural communities in the United States

$\square$

36
38

## Rural voters are more likely than urban and suburban voters to rate the quality of their health care poorly

How would you rate the quality of health care in your community? (Among Nationwide Voters)
\% Total
(Not So Good + Poor)
34

## Rural access to emergency care requires urgent attention

How would you rate the following? (Among Nationwide Voters)

|  | Excellent |  | Good | Not so good | Poor |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The quality of the emergency medical system in rural or remote communities | 6 | 30 |  | 42 | 22 |

Do you agree or disagree with the following? (Among Nationwide Voters)
Somewhat/Strongly
It is important that Americans who live in remote or rural areas have access to lifesaving emergency medical care


## Voters want Medicare to increase its reimbursement rate for air ambulance services

Through Medicare, the government reimburses for air medical transports at the same rate it did twenty years ago. Because costs have gone up significantly over that time, this means emergency air transports are underfunded, and many air medical bases are facing closure. If that happens, parts of the country - especially those in rural areas - will not have access to transport by helicopter in the event of an emergency.

Do you support or oppose increasing the rate that Medicare reimburses for emergency air medical services, so that it is aligned with the actual cost of transporting patients? (Among Nationwide Voters)


Regardless of where they live, voters support increasing funding. (86\% of suburban voters support increasing funding; 85\% of urban voters support increasing funding.)

## Voters oppose proposed VA cuts and want rural veterans to have access to emergency health care

For the following statement, please indicate whether you agree or disagree: We have an obligation to ensure men and women who have fought for their country have access to quality health care. (Among Nationwide Voters)
 (97\% of Democrats and Republicans agree; 98\% of Independents agree.)

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently announced that it intends to cut its funding for emergency air medical services, which would greatly impact rural veterans' access to air ambulances. Would you support or oppose the VA's proposed cuts to emergency air medical services? (Among Nationwide Voters)


Voters - especially Republican voters - oppose VA funding cuts for emergency air medical services.
(83\% of Democrats oppose cuts; $87 \%$ of Republicans oppose cuts; $87 \%$ of Independents oppose cuts.)

## Thank You

