



QuickTakes

Top QuickTakes

- Health spending in the United States averaged **\$7,681 per person** in 2008, totaling \$2.3 trillion, or **16.2% of our nation's economy**, up from 7.2% of GDP in 1970 and 12.3% of GDP in 1990
- The top 1% of the U.S. population was responsible for **23% of health care spending in 2007**
- **45 million nonelderly** Americans were uninsured in 2007, and **eight in ten** were in families with at least one worker
- Medicare covers 44 million Americans --**16% of whom are under age 65 and disabled** -- at a projected cost of \$420 billion in 2009
- Medicare accounts for **14% of the total federal budget**, more than the 7% accounted for by Medicaid, but a smaller share than Social Security (22%) or defense (20%)
- Employers are the principal source of health insurance in the United States, providing health benefits for about 159 million people, or about **52% of all Americans**; however, the percentage of employers who offer such benefits **has been falling**: 69 percent offered health coverage benefits in 2000, compared to 60% in 2009
- The average premium for family health coverage through an employer was **\$13,375 in 2009**, of which covered workers paid an average of \$3,515
- Since 1999, family premiums for employer-sponsored insurance **have increased 131 percent**, while wages have gone up 38 percent and inflation has gone up 28 percent
- For the first time on record, the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index exceeds the increase in national health spending per capita, **3.8% vs. 3.5% in 2008**
- The 24% of Medicaid enrollees who were elderly or disabled accounted for **70% of the program's \$275 billion** in federal and state spending on services in 2005 while only 30% of spending was for the **45 million children and adults** who make up 76% of total enrollment
- Medicaid pays **40% of all the nation's long-term care costs** -- making it by far the largest payer for long-term care



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